

ENERGY QUANTIZATION FOR A NONLINEAR SIGMA MODEL WITH CRITICAL GRAVITINOS

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ABSTRACT. We study some analytical and geometric properties of a two-dimensional nonlinear sigma model with gravitino which comes from supersymmetric string theory. When the action is critical w.r.t. variations of the various fields including the gravitino, there is a symmetric, traceless and divergence-free energy-momentum tensor, which gives rise to a holomorphic quadratic differential. Using it we obtain a Pohozaev type identity and finally we can establish the energy identities along a weakly convergent sequence of fields with uniformly bounded energies.

1. INTRODUCTION

The 2-dimensional nonlinear sigma models constitute important models in quantum field theory. They have not only physical applications, but also geometric implications, and therefore their properties have been the focus of important lines of research. In mathematics, they arise as two-dimensional harmonic maps and pseudo holomorphic curves. In modern physics the basic matter fields are described by vector fields as well as spinor fields, which are coupled by supersymmetries. The base manifolds are two-dimensional, and therefore their conformal and spin structures come into play. From the physics side, in the 1970s a supersymmetric 2-dimensional nonlinear sigma model was proposed in [6, 14]; the name “supersymmetric” comes from the fact that the action functional is invariant under certain transformations of the matter fields, see for instance [13, 18]. From the perspective of geometric analysis, they seem to be natural candidates for a variational approach, and one might expect that the powerful variational methods developed for harmonic maps and pseudo holomorphic curves could be applied here as well. However, because of the various spinor fields involved, new difficulties arise. The geometric aspects have been developed in mathematical terms in [25], but this naturally involves anti-commuting variables which are not amenable to inequalities, and therefore variational methods cannot be applied, and one rather needs algebraic tools. This would lead to what one may call super harmonic maps. Here, we adopt a different approach. We transform the anti-commuting variables into commuting ones, as in ordinary Riemannian geometry. In particular, the domains of the action functionals are ordinary Riemann surfaces instead of super Riemann surfaces. Then one has more fields to control, not only the maps between Riemannian manifolds and Riemannian metrics, but also their super partners. Such a model was developed and investigated in [22]. Part of the symmetries, including some super symmetries, are inherited, although some essential supersymmetries are hidden or lost. As is known, the symmetries of such functionals are quite important for the analysis, in order to overcome some analytical problems that arise as we are working in a limiting situation of the Palais-Smale condition. Therefore, here we shall develop a setting with a large symmetry group. This will enable us to

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carry out the essential steps of the variational analysis. The analytical key will be a Pohozaev type identity.

We will follow the notation conventions of [22], which are briefly recalled in the following. Let (M, g) be an oriented closed Riemannian surface with a fixed spin structure, and let $S \rightarrow M$ be a spinor bundle, of real rank four, associated to the given spin structure. Note that the Levi-Civita connection ∇^M on M and the Riemannian metric g induce a spin connection ∇^s on S in a canonical way and a spin metric g_s which is a fiberwise real inner product¹, see [26, 19]. The spinor bundle S is a left module over the Clifford bundle $\text{Cl}(M, -g)$ with the Clifford map being denoted by $\gamma: TM \rightarrow \text{End}(S)$; sometimes it will be simply denoted by a dot. The Clifford relation reads

$$\gamma(X)\gamma(Y) + \gamma(Y)\gamma(X) = -2g(X, Y), \quad \forall X, Y \in \mathcal{X}(M).$$

The Clifford action is compatible with the spinor metric and the spin connection, making S into a Dirac bundle in the sense of [26]. Therefore, the bundle $S \otimes TM$ is also a Dirac bundle over M , and a section $\chi \in \Gamma(S \otimes TM)$ is taken as a super partner of the Riemannian metric, and called a gravitino. The Clifford multiplication gives rise to a map $\delta_\gamma: S \otimes TM \rightarrow S$, where $\delta_\gamma(s \otimes v) = \gamma(v)s = v \cdot s$ for $s \in \Gamma(S)$ and $v \in \Gamma(TM)$, and extending linearly. This map is surjective, and moreover the following short exact sequence splits:

$$0 \rightarrow \ker \rightarrow S \otimes TM \xrightarrow{\delta_\gamma} S \rightarrow 0.$$

The projection map to the kernel is denoted by $Q: S \otimes TM \rightarrow S \otimes TM$. More explicitly, in a local oriented orthonormal frame (e_α) of M , a section $\chi \in \Gamma(S \otimes TM)$ can be written as $\chi^\alpha \otimes e_\alpha$ ², and the Q -projection is given by

$$\begin{aligned} Q\chi &:= -\frac{1}{2}\gamma(e_\beta)\gamma(e_\alpha)\chi^\beta \otimes e_\alpha \\ &= \frac{1}{2}((\chi^1 + \omega \cdot \chi^2) \otimes e_1 - \omega \cdot (\chi^1 + \omega \cdot \chi^2) \otimes e_2), \end{aligned}$$

where $\omega = e_1 \cdot e_2$ is the real volume element in the Clifford bundle.

Let (N, h) be a compact Riemannian manifold and $\phi: M \rightarrow N$ a map. One can consider the twisted spinor bundle $S \otimes \phi^*TN$ with bundle metric $g_s \otimes \phi^*h$ and connection $\tilde{\nabla} \equiv \nabla^{S \otimes \phi^*TN}$, which is also a Dirac bundle, and the Clifford action on this bundle is also denoted by γ or simply a dot. A section of this bundle is called a vector spinor, and it serves as a super partner of the map ϕ in this model. The twisted spin Dirac operator \mathcal{D} is defined in the canonical way: let (e_α) be a local orthonormal frame of M , then for any vector spinor $\psi \in \Gamma(S \otimes \phi^*TN)$, define

$$\mathcal{D}\psi := \gamma(e_\alpha)\tilde{\nabla}_{e_\alpha}\psi = e_\alpha \cdot \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\alpha}\psi.$$

It is elliptic and essentially self-adjoint with respect to the inner product in $L^2(S \otimes \phi^*TN)$. In a local coordinate (y^i) of N , write $\psi = \psi^i \otimes \phi^*(\frac{\partial}{\partial y^i})$, then

$$\mathcal{D}\psi = \not\partial\psi^i \otimes \phi^*\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}\right) + \gamma(e_\alpha)\psi^i \otimes \phi^*\left(\nabla_{T\phi(e_\alpha)}^N \frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}\right),$$

where $\not\partial$ is the spin Dirac operator on S . For later convention, we set

$$SR(\psi) := \langle \psi^l, \psi^j \rangle_{g_s} \psi^k \otimes \phi^*\left(R^N\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y^k}, \frac{\partial}{\partial y^l}\right)\frac{\partial}{\partial y^j}\right) = R_{jkl}^i(\phi)\langle \psi^l, \psi^j \rangle \psi^k \otimes \phi^*\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y^i}\right),$$

¹Here we take the real rather than the Hermitian one used in some previous works on Dirac-harmonic maps (with or without curvature term), as clarified in [22].

²Here and in the sequel, the summation convention is always used.

and $R(\psi) := \langle SR(\psi), \psi \rangle_{g_s \otimes \phi^* h}$.

The action functional under consideration is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{A}(\phi, \psi; g, \chi) := & \int_M |d\phi|_{g \otimes \phi^* h}^2 + \langle \psi, \not{D}\psi \rangle_{g_s \otimes \phi^* h} - 4\langle (\mathbf{1} \otimes \phi_*)(Q\chi), \psi \rangle_{g_s \otimes \phi^* h} \\ & - |Q\chi|_{g_s \otimes g}^2 |\psi|_{g_s \otimes \phi^* h}^2 - \frac{1}{6} R(\psi) \, \text{dvol}_g, \end{aligned}$$

From [22] we know that the Euler–Lagrange equations are

$$\begin{aligned} (1) \quad \tau(\phi) = & \frac{1}{2} R(\psi, e_\alpha \cdot \psi) \phi_* e_\alpha - \frac{1}{12} S \nabla R(\psi) \\ & - (\langle \nabla_{e_\beta}^s (e_\alpha \cdot e_\beta \cdot \chi^\alpha), \psi \rangle_{g_s} + \langle e_\alpha \cdot e_\beta \cdot \chi^\alpha, \widetilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta} \psi \rangle_{g_s}), \\ \not{D}\psi = & |Q\chi|^2 \psi + \frac{1}{3} SR(\psi) + 2(\mathbf{1} \otimes \phi_*) Q\chi, \end{aligned}$$

where $S \nabla R(\psi) = \phi^*(\nabla^N R)_{ijkl} \langle \psi^i, \psi^k \rangle_{g_s} \langle \psi^j, \psi^l \rangle_{g_s}$, and

$$\begin{aligned} R(\psi, e_\alpha \cdot \psi) \phi_* e_\alpha = & \langle \psi^k, e_\alpha \cdot \psi^l \rangle_{g_s} e_\alpha(\phi^j) \phi^* \left(R \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y^k}, \frac{\partial}{\partial y^l} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial y^j} \right) \\ = & R^i_{jkl} \langle \psi^k, \nabla \phi^j \cdot \psi^l \rangle \otimes \phi^* \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y^i} \right). \end{aligned}$$

One notices that this action functional can actually be defined for (ϕ, ψ) that possess only little regularity; we only need integrability properties to make the action well defined, that is, $\phi \in W^{1,2}(M, N)$ and $\psi \in \Gamma^{1,4/3}(S \otimes \phi^* TN)$. The corresponding solutions of (1) in the sense of distributions are called weak solutions. When the Riemannian metric g and the gravitino χ are assumed to be smooth parameters, it is shown in [22] that any weak solution (ϕ, ψ) is actually smooth. We will show that these solutions have more interesting geometric and analytical properties. Embed (N, h) isometrically into some Euclidean space \mathbb{R}^K . Then a solution can be represented by a tuple of functions $\phi = (\phi^1, \dots, \phi^K)$ taking values in \mathbb{R}^K and a tuple of spinors $\psi = (\psi^1, \dots, \psi^K)$ where each ψ^i is a (pure) spinor and they together satisfy the condition that at each point $\phi(x)$ in the image, for any normal vector $\nu = (\nu^1, \dots, \nu^K) \in T_{\phi(x)}^\perp N \subset T_{\phi(x)} \mathbb{R}^K$,

$$\sum_{i=1}^K \psi^i(x) \nu^i(\phi(x)) = 0.$$

Moreover, writing the second fundamental form of the isometric embedding as $A = (A_{jk}^i)$, the Euler–Lagrange equations can be written in the following form (see [22])

$$\begin{aligned} (2) \quad \Delta \phi^i = & A_{jk}^i \langle \nabla \phi^j, \nabla \phi^k \rangle + A_{jm}^i A_{kl}^m \langle \psi^j, \nabla \phi^k \cdot \psi^l \rangle \\ & + Z^i(A, \nabla A)_{jklm} \langle \psi^j, \psi^l \rangle \langle \psi^k, \psi^m \rangle - \text{div } V^i - A_{jk}^i \langle V^j, \nabla \phi^k \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (3) \quad \not{D}\psi^i = & -A_{jk}^i \nabla \phi^j \cdot \psi^k + |Q\chi|^2 \psi^i + \frac{1}{3} A_{jm}^i A_{kl}^m (\langle \psi^k, \psi^l \rangle \psi^j - \langle \psi^j, \psi^k \rangle \psi^l) \\ & - e_\alpha \cdot \nabla \phi^i \cdot \chi^\alpha. \end{aligned}$$

Here the V^i 's are vector fields on M defined by

$$(4) \quad V^i = \langle e_\alpha \cdot e_\beta \cdot \chi^\alpha, \psi^i \rangle e_\beta.$$

One should note that there is some ambiguity here, because the second fundamental form maps tangent vectors of the submanifold N to normal vectors, so the lower indices of A_{jk}^i should be tangential indices, and the upper ones normal. However, one can extend the second

fundamental form to a tubular neighborhood of N in \mathbb{R}^K such that all the A_{jk}^i 's make sense. Alternatively, one can rewrite the extrinsic equations without labeling indices, but we want to derive estimates and see how the second fundamental form A affects the system, hence we adopt this formulation.

This action functional is closely related to Dirac-harmonic maps with curvature term. Actually, if the gravitinos vanish in the model, the action \mathbb{A} then reads

$$L_c(\phi, \psi) = \int_M |\mathrm{d}\phi|^2 + \langle \psi, \not{D}\psi \rangle - \frac{1}{6} R(\psi) \mathrm{dvol}_g,$$

whose critical points are known as Dirac-harmonic maps with curvature term. These were firstly introduced in [10] and further investigated in [4, 5, 24]. Furthermore, if the curvature term is also omitted, then we get the Dirac-harmonic map functional which was introduced in [7, 8] and further explored from the perspective of geometric analysis in e.g. [35, 36, 37, 33, 9, 27, 31]. From the physical perspective, they constitute a simplified version of the model considered in this paper, and describe the behavior of the nonlinear sigma models in degenerate cases.

The symmetries of this action functional always play an important role in the study of the solution spaces, and here especially the rescaled conformal invariance.

Lemma 1.1. *Let $f: (\widetilde{M}, \widetilde{g}) \rightarrow (M, g)$ be a conformal diffeomorphism, with $f^*g = e^{2u}\widetilde{g}$, and suppose the spin structure of $(\widetilde{M}, \widetilde{g})$ is isomorphic to the pullback of the given one of (M, g) . There is an identification $B: S \rightarrow \widetilde{S}$ which is an isomorphism and fiberwise isometry such that under the transformation*

$$\begin{aligned} \phi &\mapsto \tilde{\phi} := \phi \circ f, \\ \psi &\mapsto \tilde{\psi} := e^{\frac{u}{2}}(B \otimes \mathbb{1}_{\phi^*TN})\psi, \\ \chi &\mapsto \tilde{\chi} := e^{\frac{3u}{2}}(B \otimes (f^{-1})_*)\chi, \\ g &\mapsto \tilde{g}, \end{aligned}$$

each summand of the action functional stays invariant, and also

$$\int_M |\psi|^4 \mathrm{dvol}_g = \int_{\widetilde{M}} |\tilde{\psi}|^4 \mathrm{dvol}_{\tilde{g}}.$$

Remark. Furthermore, the following quantities are also invariant under the transformations in the above lemma:

$$\int_M |\chi|^4 \mathrm{d}x, \quad \int_M |\tilde{\nabla}\psi|^{\frac{4}{3}} \mathrm{d}x, \quad \int_M |\widehat{\nabla}\chi|^{\frac{4}{3}} \mathrm{d}x,$$

where $\widehat{\nabla} \equiv \nabla^{S \otimes TM}$. Also observe that Q is only a linear projection operator, so $Q\chi$ enjoys the same analytic properties as χ . In our model, most time it is only the Q -part of χ which is involved, so all the assumptions and conclusions can be made on the $Q\chi$'s. The rescaled conformal invariance with respect to ψ was shown in [17], and see also [8]. As for the gravitino χ , the spinor part has to be rescaled in the same way as ψ , while the tangent vector part has to be rescaled in the ordinary way, which gives rise to an additional factor e^u , such that the corresponding norms are invariant. For more detailed investigations one can refer to [23] where more symmetry properties of our nonlinear sigma model with gravitinos are analyzed.

Example 1. When the map f is a rescaling by a constant λ on the Euclidean space with the standard Euclidean metric g_0 , then $f^*g_0 = \lambda^2 g_0$ and $(f^{-1})_*$ is a rescaling by λ^{-1} . In this case the gravitino χ transforms to $\sqrt{\lambda} B \chi^\alpha \otimes e_\alpha$, where e_α is a standard basis for (\mathbb{R}^2, g_0) .

For a given pair (ϕ, ψ) and a domain $U \subset M$, the energy of this pair (ϕ, ψ) on U is defined to be

$$E(\phi, \psi; U) := \int_U |\mathrm{d}\phi|^2 + |\psi|^4 \, \mathrm{dvol}_g,$$

and when U is the entire manifold we write $E(\phi, \psi)$ omitting U . Similarly, the energy of the map ϕ resp. the vector spinor ψ on U is defined by

$$E(\phi; U) := \int_U |\mathrm{d}\phi|^2 \, \mathrm{dvol}_g, \quad \text{resp.} \quad E(\psi; U) := \int_U |\psi|^4 \, \mathrm{dvol}_g.$$

From the previous lemma we know that they are rescaling invariant. We will show that whenever the local energy of a solution is small, then some higher derivatives of this solution can be controlled by its energy and some appropriate norm of the gravitino; this is known as the small energy regularity. On the other hand, similar to the theories for harmonic maps and Dirac-harmonic maps, the energy of a solution should not be globally small, that is, when the domain is a closed surface, in particular the standard sphere, because too small energy forces the solution to be trivial. That is, there are energy gaps between the trivial and nontrivial solutions of (1) on some closed surfaces. These will be shown in Section 2.

To proceed further we restrict to some special gravitinos, i.e. *those gravitinos that are critical with respect to variations*. As shown in [23], this is equivalent to the vanishing of the corresponding *supercurrent*. Then we will see in Section 3 that the energy-momentum tensor, defined using a local orthonormal frame (e_α) by

$$\begin{aligned} T = & \left\{ 2\langle \phi_* e_\alpha, \phi_* e_\beta \rangle - |\mathrm{d}\phi|^2 g_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2} \left\langle \psi, e_\alpha \cdot \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta} \psi + e_\beta \cdot \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\alpha} \psi \right\rangle - \langle \psi, \not{D}_g \psi \rangle g_{\alpha\beta} \right. \\ & + \langle e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \chi^\eta \otimes \phi_* e_\beta + e_\eta \cdot e_\beta \cdot \chi^\eta \otimes \phi_* e_\alpha, \psi \rangle + 4\langle (\mathbf{1} \otimes \phi_*) Q\chi, \psi \rangle g_{\alpha\beta} \\ & \left. + |Q\chi|^2 |\psi|^2 g_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{6} R(\psi) g_{\alpha\beta} \right\} e^\alpha \otimes e^\beta, \end{aligned}$$

is symmetric, traceless and divergence free, see Proposition 3.3. Hence it gives rise to a holomorphic quadratic differential, see Proposition 3.4. In a local conformal coordinate $z = x + iy$, this differential reads

$$T(z) \, \mathrm{d}z^2 := (T_{11} - iT_{12})(\mathrm{d}x + i \, \mathrm{d}y)^2,$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} T_{11} &= \left| \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right|^2 - \left| \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \right|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \left(\langle \psi, \gamma(\partial_x) \tilde{\nabla}_{\partial_x} \psi \rangle - \langle \psi, \gamma(\partial_y) \tilde{\nabla}_{\partial_y} \psi \rangle \right) + F_{11}, \\ T_{12} &= \left\langle \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \right\rangle_{\phi^* h} + \langle \psi, \gamma(\partial_x) \tilde{\nabla}_{\partial_y} \psi \rangle + F_{12}, \end{aligned}$$

where in a local chart $\chi = \chi^x \otimes \partial_x + \chi^y \otimes \partial_y$ and

$$\begin{aligned} F_{11} &= 2\langle -\chi^x \otimes \phi_*(\partial_x) - \gamma(\partial_x) \gamma(\partial_y) \chi^y \otimes \phi_*(\partial_x), \psi \rangle + 2\langle (\mathbf{1} \otimes \phi_*) Q\chi, \psi \rangle g(\partial_x, \partial_x), \\ F_{12} &= 2\langle -\chi^x \otimes \phi_*(\partial_y) - \gamma(\partial_x) \gamma(\partial_y) \chi^y \otimes \phi_*(\partial_y), \psi \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently we can establish a Pohozaev type identity for our model in Section 4. This will be the key ingredient for the analysis in the sequel.

Theorem 1.2. (Pohozaev identity.) *Let (ϕ, ψ) be a smooth solution of (1) on $B_1^* := B_1 \setminus \{0\}$ with χ being a critical gravitino which is smooth on B_1 . Assume that (ϕ, ψ) has finite energy on B_1 . Then for any $0 < r < 1$,*

$$(5) \quad \int_0^{2\pi} \left| \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \right|^2 - \frac{1}{r^2} \left| \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \theta} \right|^2 d\theta = \int_0^{2\pi} -\langle \psi, \gamma(\partial_r) \tilde{\nabla}_{\partial_r} \psi \rangle + \frac{1}{6} R(\psi) - (F_{11} \cos 2\theta + F_{12} \sin 2\theta) d\theta \\ = \int_0^{2\pi} \left\langle \psi, \frac{1}{r^2} \gamma(\partial_\theta) \tilde{\nabla}_{\partial_\theta} \psi \right\rangle - \frac{1}{6} R(\psi) - (F_{11} \cos 2\theta + F_{12} \sin 2\theta) d\theta.$$

In Section 4 we also prove that isolated singularities are removable, using a result from the Appendix and the regularity theorem in [22].

Finally, for a sequence of solutions (ϕ_k, ψ_k) with uniformly bounded energies defined on (M, g) with respect to critical gravitinos χ_k which converge in $W^{1, \frac{4}{3}}$ to some smooth limit χ , a subsequence can be extracted which converges weakly in $W^{1,2} \times L^4$ to a solution defined on (M, g) , and by a rescaling argument, known as the blow-up procedure, we can get some solutions with vanishing gravitinos, i.e. Dirac harmonic maps with curvature term, defined on the standard sphere \mathbb{S}^2 with target manifold (N, h) , known as “bubbles”. Moreover, the energies pass to the limit, i.e. the energy identities hold.

Theorem 1.3. (Energy identities.) *Let (ϕ_k, ψ_k) be a sequence of solutions of (1) with respect to smooth critical gravitinos χ_k which converge in $W^{1, \frac{4}{3}}$ to a smooth limit χ , and assume their energies are uniformly bounded:*

$$E(\phi_k, \psi_k) \leq \Lambda < \infty.$$

Then passing to a subsequence if necessary, the sequence (ϕ_k, ψ_k) converges weakly in the space $W^{1,2}(M, N) \times L^4(S \otimes \mathbb{R}^K)$ to a smooth solution (ϕ, ψ) with respect to χ . Moreover, the blow-up set

$$\mathcal{S} := \bigcap_{r>0} \left\{ p \in M \mid \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} \int_{B_r(p)} |\nabla \phi_k|^2 + |\psi_k|^4 d\text{vol}_g \geq \varepsilon_0 \right\}$$

is a finite (possibly empty) set of points $\{p_1, \dots, p_I\}$, and correspondingly a finite set (possibly empty) of Dirac-harmonic maps with curvature term (σ_i^l, ξ_i^l) defined on \mathbb{S}^2 with target manifold (N, h) , for $l = 1, \dots, L_i$ and $i = 1, \dots, I$, such that the following energy identities hold:

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} E(\phi_k) = E(\phi) + \sum_{i=1}^I \sum_{l=1}^{L_i} E(\sigma_i^l), \\ \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} E(\psi_k) = E(\psi) + \sum_{i=1}^I \sum_{l=1}^{L_i} E(\xi_i^l).$$

The proof will be given in Section 5. Although these conclusions are similar to those for harmonic maps and Dirac-harmonic maps and some of its variants in e.g. [20, 29, 7, 35, 24], one has to pay special attentions to the critical gravitinos.

2. SMALL ENERGY REGULARITY AND ENERGY GAP PROPERTY

In this section we consider the behavior of solutions with small energies.

2.1. First we show the small energy regularities. Recall that for harmonic maps and Dirac-harmonic maps and its variants [30, 8, 5, 24], it suffices to assume that the energy on a local domain is small. However, as we will see soon, here we have to assume that the gravitinos are also small. For the elliptic estimates used here, one can refer to [3, 16, 11], or more adapted versions in [1].

Theorem 2.1. (ε_1 -Regularity theorem.) *Consider the local model defined on the Euclidean unit disk $B_1 \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ and the target manifold is a submanifold $(N, h) \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^K$ with second fundamental form A . For any $p_1 \in (1, \frac{4}{3})$ and $p_2 \in (1, 2)$ there exists an $\varepsilon_1 = \varepsilon_1(A, p_1, p_2) \in (0, 1)$ such that if the gravitino χ and a solution (ϕ, ψ) of (1) satisfy*

$$E(\phi, \psi; B_1) = \int_{B_1} |\nabla \phi|^2 + |\psi|^4 dx \leq \varepsilon_1, \quad \int_{B_1} |\chi|^4 + |\widehat{\nabla} \chi|^{\frac{4}{3}} dx \leq \varepsilon_1,$$

then for any $U \Subset B_1$, the following estimates hold:

$$\|\phi\|_{W^{2,p_1}(U)} \leq C(|A| \|\nabla \phi\|_{L^2(B_1)} + |A|^2 \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2 + \|Q\chi\|_{W^{1,\frac{4}{3}}(B_1)}),$$

$$\|\psi\|_{W^{1,p_2}(U)} \leq C(|A| \|\nabla \phi\|_{L^2(B_1)} + |A|^2 \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2 + \|Q\chi\|_{W^{1,\frac{4}{3}}(B_1)}),$$

where $C = C(p_1, p_2, U, N) > 0$.

Remark. Note that if the second fundamental form A vanishes identically, then N is a totally geodesic submanifold of the Euclidean space \mathbb{R}^K , hence there is no curvatures on N and the model then is easy and not of interest. So we will assume that $A \neq 0$, and without loss of generality, we assume $|A| \equiv \|A\| \geq 1$. For some $C(p)$ depending on the value of p to be chosen later, the small barrier constant ε_1 will be required to satisfy

$$(6) \quad C(p)|A|^2 \sqrt{\varepsilon_1} \leq \frac{1}{8}, \quad C(p)|A| |\nabla A| \varepsilon_1^{3/4} \leq \frac{1}{8},$$

where $|\nabla A| \equiv \|\nabla A\|$. These restrictions will be explained in the proof.

Remark. Note also that since the domain is the Euclidean disk B_1 , the connection $\widehat{\nabla}$ is actually equivalent to ∇^s .

Proof of Theorem 2.1. Since N is taken as a compact submanifold of \mathbb{R}^K , we may assume that it is contained in a ball of radius C_N in \mathbb{R}^K , which implies $\|\phi\|_{L^\infty} \leq C_N$. Moreover, as we are dealing with a local solution (ϕ, ψ) , we may assume that $\int_{B_1} \phi dx = 0$, so that the Poincaré inequalities hold: for any $p \in [1, \infty]$,

$$\|\phi\|_{L^p(B_1)} \leq C_p \|\nabla \phi\|_{L^p(B_1)}.$$

Let $(U_k)_{k \geq 1}$ be a sequence of nonempty disks such that

$$B_1 \supset U_1 \supset U_2 \supset U_3 \supset \dots$$

Take a smooth cutoff function $\eta: B_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $0 \leq \eta \leq 1$, $\eta|_{U_1} \equiv 1$, and $\text{supp } \eta \subset B_1$. Then $\eta\psi$ satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} \not\partial(\eta\psi^i) &= \nabla \eta \cdot \psi^i + \eta \not\partial \psi^i \\ &= \nabla \eta \cdot \psi^i - A_{jk}^i \nabla \phi^j \cdot (\eta\psi^k) + |Q\chi|^2 (\eta\psi^i) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{3} A_{jm}^i A_{kl}^m (\langle \psi^k, \psi^l \rangle (\eta\psi^j) - \langle \psi^j, \psi^k \rangle (\eta\psi^l)) \\ &\quad - e_\alpha \cdot \nabla(\eta\phi^i) \cdot \chi^\alpha + e_\alpha \cdot \phi^i \nabla \eta \cdot \chi^\alpha. \end{aligned}$$

Then one has

$$\begin{aligned} |\tilde{\partial}(\eta\psi)| &\leq |\nabla\eta||\psi| + |A||\nabla\phi| \cdot |\eta\psi| + |Q\chi|^2|\eta\psi| + |A|^2|\psi|^2 \cdot |\eta\psi| \\ &\quad + |Q\chi||\nabla(\eta\phi)| + |\phi||\nabla\eta||Q\chi|. \end{aligned}$$

Consider the L^p -norm (where $p \in (1, 2)$) of the left hand side:

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{\partial}(\eta\psi)\|_{L^p(B_1)} &\leq \|\nabla\eta\|_{L^{\frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)} \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)} + |A| \|\nabla\phi\|_{L^2(B_1)} \|\eta\psi\|_{L^{\frac{2p}{2-p}}(B_1)} \\ &\quad + \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2 \|\eta\psi\|_{L^{\frac{2p}{2-p}}(B_1)} + |A|^2 \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2 \|\eta\psi\|_{L^{\frac{2p}{2-p}}(B_1)} \\ &\quad + \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)} \|\nabla(\eta\phi)\|_{L^{\frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)} + C_N \|\nabla\eta\|_{L^{\frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)} \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)}. \end{aligned}$$

Assume that $\|\nabla\eta\|_{L^{\frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)}$ is bounded by some constant $C' = C'(U_1, p)$. Since $\eta\psi$ vanishes on the boundary and $\tilde{\partial}$ is an elliptic operator of order one, we have

$$\|\eta\psi\|_{L^{\frac{2p}{2-p}}(B_1)} \leq C(p) \|\nabla^s(\eta\psi)\|_{L^p(B_1)} \leq C(p) \|\tilde{\partial}(\eta\psi)\|_{L^p(B_1)}.$$

Then from

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{\partial}(\eta\psi)\|_{L^p(B_1)} &\leq \left(|A| \|\nabla\phi\|_{L^2(B_1)} + \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2 + |A|^2 \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2 \right) \|\eta\psi\|_{L^{\frac{2p}{2-p}}(B_1)} \\ &\quad + \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)} \|\nabla(\eta\phi)\|_{L^{\frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)} + C_N C' (\|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)} + \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)}) \end{aligned}$$

together with the fact

$$|\tilde{\nabla}(\eta\psi)| \leq |\nabla^s(\eta\psi)| + |A||\eta\psi||\nabla\phi|,$$

it follows that

$$(7) \quad \|\tilde{\nabla}(\eta\psi)\|_{L^p(B_1)} \leq 2C(p) \left(\|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)} \|\nabla(\eta\phi)\|_{L^{\frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)} + C_N C' (\|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)} + \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)}) \right)$$

provided that (6) is satisfied.

Now consider the map ϕ . The equations for $\eta\phi$ are

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(\eta\phi^i) &= \eta\Delta\phi^i + 2\langle\nabla\eta, \nabla\phi^i\rangle + (\Delta\eta)\phi^i \\ &= \eta(A_{jk}^i \langle\nabla\phi^j, \nabla\phi^k\rangle + A_{jm}^i A_{kl}^m \langle\psi^j, \nabla\phi^k \cdot \psi^l\rangle \\ &\quad + Z^i(A, \nabla A)_{jklm} \langle\psi^j, \psi^l\rangle \langle\psi^k, \psi^m\rangle \\ &\quad - \operatorname{div} V^i - A_{jk}^i \langle V^j, \nabla\phi^k\rangle) + 2\langle\nabla\eta, \nabla\phi^i\rangle + (\Delta\eta)\phi^i. \end{aligned}$$

Using $\eta\nabla\phi^i = \nabla(\eta\phi^i) - \phi^i(\nabla\eta)$, we can rewrite it as

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(\eta\phi^i) &= A_{jk}^i \langle\nabla\phi^j, \nabla(\eta\phi^k)\rangle + A_{jm}^i A_{kl}^m \langle\psi^j, \nabla(\eta\phi^k) \cdot \psi^l\rangle \\ &\quad + Z^i(A, \nabla A)_{jklm} \langle\psi^j, \psi^l\rangle \langle\psi^k, \eta\psi^m\rangle \\ (8) \quad &- \operatorname{div}(\eta V^i) - A_{jk}^i \langle V^j, \nabla(\eta\phi^k)\rangle + 2\langle\nabla\eta, \nabla\phi^i\rangle + (\Delta\eta)\phi^i \\ &- A_{jk}^i \langle\nabla\phi^j, \phi^k \nabla\eta\rangle - A_{jm}^i A_{kl}^m \langle\psi^j, \phi^k \nabla\eta \cdot \psi^l\rangle + \langle\nabla\eta, V^i\rangle + A_{jk}^i \langle V^j, \phi^k \nabla\eta\rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Notice that $\eta\phi^i \in C_0^\infty(B_1)$. Split it as $\eta\phi^i = u^i + v^i$, where $u^i \in C_0^\infty(B_1)$ uniquely solves (see e.g. [12, Chap. 8])

$$\Delta u^i = -\operatorname{div}(\eta V^i).$$

Since $\eta V^i \in L^{\frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)$, it follows from the L^p theory of Laplacian operators that

$$(9) \quad \|u\|_{W^{1, \frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)} \leq C(p) \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)} \|\eta\psi\|_{L^{\frac{2p}{2-p}}(B_1)}.$$

Then $v^i \in C_0^\infty(B_1)$ satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta v^i &= \Delta(\eta\phi^i) - \Delta u^i \\ &= A_{jk}^i \langle \nabla\phi^j, \nabla(\eta\phi^k) \rangle + A_{jm}^i A_{kl}^m \langle \psi^j, \nabla(\eta\phi^k) \cdot \psi^l \rangle \\ &\quad + Z^i(A, \nabla A)_{jklm} \langle \psi^j, \psi^l \rangle \langle \psi^k, \eta\psi^m \rangle - A_{jk}^i \langle V^j, \nabla(\eta\phi^k) \rangle + 2 \langle \nabla\eta, \nabla\phi^i \rangle + (\Delta\eta)\phi^i \\ &\quad - A_{jk}^i \langle \nabla\phi^j, \phi^k \nabla\eta \rangle - A_{jm}^i A_{kl}^m \langle \psi^j, \phi^k \nabla\eta \cdot \psi^l \rangle + \langle \nabla\eta, V^i \rangle + A_{jk}^i \langle V^j, \phi^k \nabla\eta \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

From [22], $\|Z(A, \nabla A)\| \leq |A| |\nabla A|$. Thus the $L^{\frac{4p}{4-p}}$ norm of Δv can thus be estimated by

$$\begin{aligned} \|\Delta v\|_{L^{\frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)} &\leq |A| \|\nabla\phi\|_{L^2(B_1)} \|\nabla(\eta\phi)\|_{L^{\frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)} + |A|^2 \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2 \|\nabla(\eta\phi)\|_{L^{\frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)} \\ &\quad + |A| |\nabla A| \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^3 \|\eta\psi\|_{L^{\frac{2p}{2-p}}(B_1)} + |A| \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)} \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)} \|\nabla(\eta\phi)\|_{L^{\frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)} \\ &\quad + 2 \|\nabla\eta\|_{L^{\frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)} \|\nabla\phi\|_{L^2(B_1)} + \|\Delta\eta\|_{L^{\frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)} \|\phi\|_{L^2(B_1)} \\ &\quad + |A| \|\nabla\phi\|_{L^2(B_1)} \|\phi \nabla\eta\|_{L^{\frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)} + |A|^2 \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2 \|\phi \nabla\eta\|_{L^{\frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)} \\ &\quad + \|\nabla\eta\|_{L^{\frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)} \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)} \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)} + |A| \|\phi \nabla\eta\|_{L^{\frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)} \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)} \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}. \end{aligned}$$

As before assume that $\|\nabla\eta\|_{L^{\frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)}$ and $\|\Delta\eta\|_{L^{\frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)}$ are bounded by $C' = C'(U_1, p)$. Collecting the terms, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|\Delta v\|_{L^{\frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)} &\leq (|A| \|\nabla\phi\|_{L^2(B_1)} + |A|^2 \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2 + |A| \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)} \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}) \|\nabla(\eta\phi)\|_{L^{\frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)} \\ &\quad + |A| |\nabla A| \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^3 \|\eta\psi\|_{L^{\frac{2p}{2-p}}(B_1)} \\ &\quad + C' C_N (2 \|\nabla\phi\|_{L^2(B_1)} + \|\phi\|_{L^2(B_1)} + |A| \|\nabla\phi\|_{L^2(B_1)} + |A|^2 \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2 \\ &\quad + \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)} \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)} + |A| \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)} \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}). \end{aligned}$$

By Sobolev embedding,

$$\begin{aligned} (10) \quad \|v\|_{W^{1, \frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)} &\leq C(p) (|A| \|\nabla\phi\|_{L^2(B_1)} + |A|^2 \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2 + \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2) \|\nabla(\eta\phi)\|_{L^{\frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)} \\ &\quad + C(p) |A| |\nabla A| \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^3 \|\eta\psi\|_{L^{\frac{2p}{2-p}}(B_1)} \\ &\quad + 4C(p) C' C_N (|A| \|\nabla\phi\|_{L^2(B_1)} + |A|^2 \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2 + \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2). \end{aligned}$$

Since $\eta\phi = u + v$, combining (9) and (10), we get

$$\begin{aligned} (11) \quad \|\eta\phi\|_{W^{1, \frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)} &\leq C(p) (|A| \|\nabla\phi\|_{L^2(B_1)} + |A|^2 \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2 + \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2) \|\nabla(\eta\phi)\|_{L^{\frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)} \\ &\quad + C(p) |A| |\nabla A| \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^3 \|\eta\psi\|_{L^{\frac{2p}{2-p}}(B_1)} + C(p) \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)} \|\eta\psi\|_{L^{\frac{2p}{2-p}}(B_1)} \\ &\quad + 4C(p) C' C_N (|A| \|\nabla\phi\|_{L^2(B_1)} + |A|^2 \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2 + \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2). \end{aligned}$$

By the small energy assumption, and Sobolev embedding, this implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\eta\phi\|_{W^{1, \frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)} &\leq 2C(p) (|A| |\nabla A| \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^3 + \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)}) \|\eta\psi\|_{W^{1,p}(B_1)} \\ &\quad + 8C(p) C' C_N (|A| \|\nabla\phi\|_{L^2(B_1)} + |A|^2 \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2 + \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2). \end{aligned}$$

The estimates (7) and (11), together with the small energy assumption, imply that for any $p \in (1, 2)$,

$$(12) \quad \|\eta\phi\|_{W^{1, \frac{4p}{4-p}}(B_1)} + \|\eta\psi\|_{W^{1,p}(B_1)} \leq C(p, \eta, N) (|A| \|\nabla\phi\|_{L^2(B_1)} + |A|^2 \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2 + \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2).$$

Note that as $p \nearrow 2$, $\frac{4p}{4-p} \nearrow 4$. Thus, $\eta\phi$ is almost a $W^{1,4}$ map and $\eta\psi$ is almost a $W^{1,2}$ vector spinor.

Now $\chi \in W^{1, \frac{4}{3}}$, thus in the equations for the map ϕ , the divergence terms can be reconsidered. Take another cutoff function, still denoted by η , such that $0 \leq \eta \leq 1$, $\eta|_{U_2} \equiv 1$, and $\text{supp } \eta \subset U_1$. Then $\eta\phi$ satisfies equations of the same form as (8), and $\text{div}(\eta V^i) \in L^p(B_1)$ for any $p \in [1, \frac{4}{3})$. For example, we take $p = \frac{8}{7}$, then

$$\|\text{div}(\eta V^i)\|_{L^{\frac{8}{7}}(B_1)} \leq C(\eta) \|\psi\|_{W^{1, \frac{8}{5}}(U_1)} \|Q\chi\|_{W^{1, \frac{4}{3}}(B_1)},$$

and note that $\|\psi\|_{W^{1, \frac{8}{5}}(U_1)}$ is under control by (12). Recalling (8) we have the estimate

$$\begin{aligned} \|\Delta(\eta\phi)\|_{L^{\frac{8}{7}}(B_1)} &\leq |A| \|\nabla\phi\|_{L^2(B_1)} \|\nabla(\eta\phi)\|_{L^{\frac{8}{3}}(B_1)} + |A|^2 \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2 \|\nabla(\eta\phi)\|_{L^{\frac{8}{3}}(B_1)} \\ &\quad + |A| \|\nabla A\| \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^3 \|\eta\psi\|_{L^8(B_1)} + |A| \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)} \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)} \|\nabla(\eta\phi)\|_{L^{\frac{8}{3}}(B_1)} \\ &\quad + \|\text{div}(\eta V)\|_{L^{\frac{8}{7}}(B_1)} + 2 \|\nabla\eta\|_{L^{\frac{8}{3}}(B_1)} \|\nabla\phi\|_{L^2(B_1)} + \|\Delta\eta\|_{L^{\frac{8}{3}}(B_1)} \|\phi\|_{L^2(B_1)} \\ &\quad + |A| \|\nabla\phi\|_{L^2(B_1)} \|\phi \nabla\eta\|_{L^{\frac{8}{3}}(B_1)} + |A|^2 \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2 \|\phi \nabla\eta\|_{L^{\frac{8}{3}}(B_1)} \\ &\quad + \|\nabla\eta\|_{L^{\frac{8}{3}}(B_1)} \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)} \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)} + |A| \|\phi \nabla\eta\|_{L^{\frac{8}{3}}(B_1)} \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)} \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}. \end{aligned}$$

As before we assume $\|\nabla\eta\|_{L^{\frac{8}{3}}(B_1)}$ and $\|\Delta\eta\|_{L^{\frac{8}{3}}(B_1)}$ are bounded by $C'' = C''(U_2, U_1)$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|\Delta(\eta\phi)\|_{L^{\frac{8}{7}}(B_1)} &\leq \left(|A| \|\nabla\phi\|_{L^2(B_1)} + |A|^2 \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2 + \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2 \right) \|\nabla(\eta\phi)\|_{L^{\frac{8}{3}}(B_1)} \\ &\quad + |A| \|\nabla A\| \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^3 \|\eta\psi\|_{L^8(B_1)} + C(\eta) \|\psi\|_{W^{1, \frac{8}{5}}(U_1)} \|Q\chi\|_{W^{1, \frac{4}{3}}(B_1)} \\ &\quad + 4C_N C'' \left(|A| \|\nabla\phi\|_{L^2(B_1)} + |A|^2 \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2 + \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2 \right). \end{aligned}$$

By the smallness assumptions and the L^p theory for Laplacian operator (here $p = \frac{8}{7}$) we get

$$\|\eta\phi\|_{W^{2, \frac{8}{7}}(B_1)} \leq C(p, U_2, N) \left(|A| \|\nabla\phi\|_{L^2(B_1)} + |A|^2 \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)}^2 + \|Q\chi\|_{W^{1, \frac{4}{3}}(B_1)}^2 \right).$$

One can check that similar estimates hold for $\|\eta\phi\|_{W^{1,p}(B_1)}$ for any $p \in (1, \frac{4}{3})$. This accomplishes the proof. \square

Recall the Sobolev embeddings

$$W_0^{2, \frac{8}{7}}(B_1) \hookrightarrow W_0^{1, \frac{8}{3}}(B_1) \hookrightarrow C_0^{1/4}(B_1).$$

Thus we see that the map ϕ is Hölder continuous with

$$\|\eta\phi\|_{C^{1/4}(B_1)} \leq C \|\eta\phi\|_{W^{2, \frac{8}{7}}(B_1)}.$$

In particular, when the energies of (ϕ, ψ) and certain norms of the gravitino are small, say smaller than ε (where $\varepsilon \leq \varepsilon_1$), the $\frac{1}{4}$ -Hölder norm of the map in the interior is also small, with the estimate

$$(13) \quad \|\phi\|_{C^{1/4}(U)} \leq C(N, U, |A|) \sqrt{\varepsilon}.$$

2.2. In this subsection we show the existence of energy gaps. For harmonic maps, this is a well known property. On certain closed surfaces the energy gaps are known to exist for Dirac-harmonic maps (with or without curvature term), and using a similar method here we get the following version with gravitinos, compare with [7, Theorem 3.1], [11, Lemma 4.1], [4, Lemma 4.8, Lemma 4.9] and [24, Proposition 5.2].

Proposition 2.2. (Energy gap property.) *Suppose that (ϕ, ψ) is a solution to (1) defined on an oriented closed surface (M, g) with target manifold (N, h) . Suppose that the spinor bundle $S \rightarrow (M, g)$ doesn't admit any nontrivial harmonic spinors. Then there exists an $\varepsilon_0 = \varepsilon_0(M, g, A) \in (0, 1)$ such that if*

$$(14) \quad E(\phi, \psi) + \|Q\chi\|_{W^{1, \frac{4}{3}}(M)} \leq \varepsilon_0,$$

then (ϕ, ψ) has to be a trivial solution.

The existence of harmonic spinors is closely related to the topological and Riemannian structures. Examples of closed surfaces which don't admit harmonic spinors include \mathbb{S}^2 with arbitrary Riemannian metric and the torus \mathbb{T}^2 with a nontrivial spin structure, and many others. For more information on harmonic spinors one can refer to [17, 2].

Proof of Proposition 2.2. When the spinor bundle S doesn't admit nontrivial harmonic spinors, the Dirac operator is “invertible”, in the sense that for any $1 < p < \infty$, there holds

$$\|\sigma\|_{L^p(M)} \leq C(p) \|\not{D}\sigma\|_{L^p(M)}, \quad \forall \sigma \in \Gamma(S).$$

See e.g. [11] for a proof³. As \not{D} is an elliptic operator of first order, one has

$$\|\nabla^s \psi^a\|_{L^{\frac{8}{5}}(M)} \leq C \left(\|\not{D}\psi^a\|_{L^{\frac{8}{5}}(M)} + \|\psi^a\|_{L^{\frac{8}{5}}(M)} \right), \quad 1 \leq a \leq K.$$

It follows that

$$(15) \quad \|\psi\|_{W^{1, \frac{8}{5}}(M)} \leq C \|\not{D}\psi\|_{L^{\frac{8}{5}}(M)} + |A| \|\psi\|_{L^4(M)} \|\nabla \phi\|_{L^{\frac{8}{3}}(M)}.$$

From (3) one gets

$$\begin{aligned} \|\not{D}\psi\|_{L^{\frac{8}{5}}(M)} &\leq |A| \|\nabla \phi\|_{L^2(M)} \|\psi\|_{L^8(M)} + \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(M)}^2 \|\psi\|_{L^8(M)} \\ &\quad + |A|^2 \|\psi\|_{L^4(M)}^2 \|\psi\|_{L^8(M)} + \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(M)} \|\nabla \phi\|_{L^{\frac{8}{3}}(M)}. \end{aligned}$$

Since (14) holds, using (15) one obtains

$$(16) \quad \|\psi\|_{W^{1, \frac{8}{5}}(M)} \leq C \left(\|Q\chi\|_{L^4(M)} + \|\psi\|_{L^4(M)} \right) \|\nabla \phi\|_{L^{\frac{8}{3}}(M)}.$$

Next we deal with the map ϕ . From (2) it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\Delta \phi\|_{L^{\frac{8}{7}}(M)} &\leq |A| \|\nabla \phi\|_{L^2(M)} \|\nabla \phi\|_{L^{\frac{8}{3}}(M)} + |A|^2 \|\psi\|_{L^4(M)}^2 \|\nabla \phi\|_{L^{\frac{8}{3}}(M)} \\ &\quad + |A| \|\nabla A\| \|\psi\|_{L^4(M)}^3 \|\psi\|_{L^8(M)} + \left(\|\widehat{\nabla} Q\chi\|_{L^{\frac{4}{3}}(M)} + C \|Q\chi\|_{L^{\frac{4}{3}}(M)} \right) \|\psi\|_{L^8(M)} \\ &\quad + \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(M)} \|\widetilde{\nabla} \psi\|_{L^{\frac{8}{5}}(M)} + |A| \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(M)} \|\psi\|_{L^4(M)} \|\nabla \phi\|_{L^{\frac{8}{3}}(M)}. \end{aligned}$$

Combining with (14) this gives

$$\|\nabla \phi\|_{L^{\frac{8}{3}}(M)} \leq C \varepsilon_0^{\frac{3}{4}} \|\psi\|_{W^{1, \frac{8}{5}}(M)} \leq C \varepsilon_0^{\frac{3}{4}} \left(\|Q\chi\|_{L^4(M)} + \|\psi\|_{L^4(M)} \right) \|\nabla \phi\|_{L^{\frac{8}{3}}(M)}.$$

³There they show a proof for $p = \frac{4}{3}$, but it is easily generalized to a general $p \in (1, \infty)$.

Therefore, when ε_0 is sufficiently small, this implies $\nabla\phi \equiv 0$, that is, $\phi = \text{const}$. Then (16) says that ψ is also trivial. \square

Remark. Observe that although the estimates here are similar to those in the proof of small energy regularities, they come from a different point of view. There we have to take cutoff functions to make the boundary terms vanish in order that the local elliptic estimates are applicable without boundary terms. Here, on the contrary, we rely on the hypothesis that S doesn't admit nontrivial harmonic spinors to obtain the estimate (16) which is a global property.

3. CRITICAL GRAVITINO AND ENERGY-MOMENTUM TENSOR

In this section we consider the energy-momentum tensor along a solution to (1). We will see that it gives rise to a holomorphic quadratic differential when the gravitino is critical, which is needed for the later analysis.

From now on we assume that the gravitino χ is also critical for the action functional with respect to variations; that is, for any smooth family $(\chi_t)_t$ of gravitinos with $\chi_0 = \chi$, it holds that

$$\left. \frac{d}{dt} \right|_{t=0} \mathbb{A}(\phi, \psi; g, \chi_t) = 0.$$

One can conclude from this by direct calculation that the *supercurrent* $J = J^\alpha \otimes e_\alpha$ vanishes (or see [23]), where

$$J^\alpha = 2\langle \phi_* e_\beta, e_\beta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \psi \rangle_{\phi^* h} + |\psi|^2 e_\beta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \chi^\beta.$$

Equivalently it can be formulated as

$$|\psi|^2 e_\beta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \chi^\beta = -2\langle \phi_* e_\beta, e_\beta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \psi \rangle_{\phi^* h}, \quad \forall \alpha.$$

Recall that $Q\chi = -\frac{1}{2}e_\beta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \chi^\beta \otimes e_\alpha$. Thus

$$(17) \quad |\psi|^2 Q\chi = -\frac{1}{2}|\psi|^2 e_\beta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \chi^\beta \otimes e_\alpha = \langle \phi_* e_\beta, e_\beta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \psi \rangle_{\phi^* h} \otimes e_\alpha.$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} |Q\chi|^2 |\psi|^2 &= \langle \chi, |Q\chi|^2 \chi \rangle_{\phi^* h} = \langle \chi^\eta \otimes e_\eta, \langle \phi_* e_\beta, e_\beta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \psi \rangle_{\phi^* h} \otimes e_\alpha \rangle_{g_s \otimes g} \\ &= \langle \chi^\alpha \otimes \phi_* e_\beta, e_\beta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \psi \rangle_{g_s \otimes \phi^* h} \\ &= \langle e_\alpha \cdot e_\beta \cdot \chi^\alpha \otimes \phi_* e_\beta, \psi \rangle_{g_s \otimes \phi^* h} \\ &= -2 \langle (\mathbb{1} \otimes \phi_*) Q\chi, \psi \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Since the Euler–Lagrange equations for ψ are

$$(18) \quad \not{D}\psi = \frac{1}{3}SR(\psi) + |Q\chi|^2 \psi + 2(\mathbb{1} \otimes \phi_*)Q\chi,$$

so if ψ is critical, i.e. the above equation (18) holds, then

$$\langle \psi, \not{D}\psi \rangle = \frac{1}{3} \langle SR(\psi), \psi \rangle = \frac{1}{3} R(\psi).$$

Therefore the following relation holds:

$$\langle \psi, e_2 \cdot \tilde{\nabla}_{e_2} \psi \rangle = -\langle \psi, e_1 \cdot \tilde{\nabla}_{e_1} \psi \rangle + \frac{1}{3} R(\psi).$$

Lemma 3.1. *For any ϕ and ψ , and for any β ,*

$$e_\beta(|Q\chi|^2|\psi|^2) = 2\langle \nabla_{e_\beta}^s(e_\alpha \cdot e_\eta \cdot \chi^\alpha) \otimes \phi_* e_\eta, \psi \rangle + 2|Q\chi|^2 \langle \psi, \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta} \psi \rangle.$$

Proof. Since

$$e_\beta(|Q\chi|^2|\psi|^2) = e_\beta(|Q\chi|^2)|\psi|^2 + 2|Q\chi|^2 \langle \psi, \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta} \psi \rangle,$$

it suffices to compute $e_\beta(|Q\chi|^2)|\psi|^2$. Note that

$$\begin{aligned} e_\beta(|Q\chi|^2) &= e_\beta \langle \chi, Q\chi \rangle = -\frac{1}{2} e_\beta \langle \chi^\alpha, e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \chi^\eta \rangle \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} (\langle \nabla_{e_\beta}^s \chi^\alpha, e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \chi^\eta \rangle + \langle \chi^\alpha, e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \nabla_{e_\beta}^s \chi^\eta \rangle) \\ &= -\langle \nabla_{e_\beta}^s \chi^\alpha, e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \chi^\eta \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, by virtue of (17),

$$\begin{aligned} e_\beta(|Q\chi|^2)|\psi|^2 &= -\langle \nabla_{e_\beta}^s \chi^\alpha, |\psi|^2 e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \chi^\eta \rangle = 2 \langle \nabla_{e_\beta}^s \chi^\alpha, \langle \phi_* e_\eta, e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \psi \rangle_{\phi^* h} \rangle_{g_s} \\ &= 2 \langle \nabla_{e_\beta}^s \chi^\alpha \otimes \phi_* e_\eta, e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \psi \rangle = 2 \langle \nabla_{e_\beta}^s(e_\alpha \cdot e_\eta \cdot \chi^\alpha) \otimes \phi_* e_\eta, \psi \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

The desired equality follows. □

Lemma 3.2. *For any ϕ and ψ ,*

$$(19) \quad \langle (\mathbb{1} \otimes \phi_*) Q\chi, \omega \cdot \psi \rangle = 0,$$

where $\omega = e_1 \cdot e_2$ is the volume element.

Proof. Since

$$|\psi|^2(\mathbb{1} \otimes \phi_*) Q\chi = -\frac{1}{2} |\psi|^2 e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \chi^\eta \otimes \phi_* e_\alpha = \langle \phi_* e_\eta, e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \psi \rangle_{\phi^* h} \otimes \phi_* e_\alpha,$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} |\psi|^2 \langle (\mathbb{1} \otimes \phi_*) Q\chi, e_1 \cdot e_2 \cdot \psi \rangle &= \langle \langle \phi_* e_\eta, e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \psi \rangle_{\phi^* h} \otimes \phi_* e_\alpha, e_1 \cdot e_2 \cdot \psi \rangle \\ &= \langle \langle \phi_* e_\eta, e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \psi \rangle_{\phi^* h}, \langle \phi_* e_\alpha, e_1 \cdot e_2 \cdot \psi \rangle_{\phi^* h} \rangle_{g_s}. \end{aligned}$$

According to the Clifford relation it holds that

$$\begin{aligned} &\langle \langle \phi_* e_\eta, e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \psi \rangle_{\phi^* h}, \langle \phi_* e_\alpha, e_1 \cdot e_2 \cdot \psi \rangle_{\phi^* h} \rangle_{g_s} \\ &= \langle \langle \phi_* e_\eta, e_2 \cdot e_1 \cdot e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \psi \rangle_{\phi^* h}, \langle \phi_* e_\alpha, \psi \rangle_{\phi^* h} \rangle_{g_s} \\ &= \langle \langle \phi_* e_\eta, e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot e_2 \cdot e_1 \cdot \psi \rangle_{\phi^* h}, \langle \phi_* e_\alpha, \psi \rangle_{\phi^* h} \rangle_{g_s} \\ &= \langle \langle \phi_* e_\eta, e_2 \cdot e_1 \cdot \psi \rangle_{\phi^* h}, \langle \phi_* e_\alpha, e_\alpha \cdot e_\eta \cdot \psi \rangle_{\phi^* h} \rangle_{g_s} \\ &= - \langle \langle \phi_* e_\alpha, e_1 \cdot e_2 \cdot \psi \rangle_{\phi^* h}, \langle \phi_* e_\eta, e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \psi \rangle_{\phi^* h} \rangle_{g_s}. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$|\psi|^2 \langle (\mathbb{1} \otimes \phi_*) Q\chi, e_1 \cdot e_2 \cdot \psi \rangle = 0.$$

At any point $x \in M$, if $\psi(x) = 0$, then (19) holds; and if $|\psi(x)| \neq 0$, then by the calculations above (19) also holds. This finishes the proof. □

Remark. More explicitly (19) is equivalent to

$$(20) \quad \langle e_1 \cdot e_2 \cdot \chi^1 \otimes \phi_* e_1 + \chi^1 \otimes \phi_* e_2 - \chi^2 \otimes \phi_* e_1 + e_1 \cdot e_2 \cdot \chi^2 \otimes \phi_* e_2, \psi \rangle = 0.$$

From [23] we know the energy-momentum tensor is given by $T = T_{\alpha\beta} e^\alpha \otimes e^\beta$ where

$$(21) \quad \begin{aligned} T_{\alpha\beta} = & 2\langle \phi_* e_\alpha, \phi_* e_\beta \rangle_{\phi^* h} - |\mathrm{d}\phi|^2 g_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2} \left\langle \psi, e_\alpha \cdot \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta} \psi + e_\beta \cdot \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\alpha} \psi \right\rangle_{g_s \otimes \phi^* h} - \langle \psi, \not{D}_g \psi \rangle g_{\alpha\beta} \\ & + \langle e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \chi^\eta \otimes \phi_* e_\beta + e_\eta \cdot e_\beta \cdot \chi^\eta \otimes \phi_* e_\alpha, \psi \rangle_{g_s \otimes \phi^* h} + 4\langle (\mathbb{1} \otimes \phi_*) Q\chi, \psi \rangle g_{\alpha\beta} \\ & + |Q\chi|^2 |\psi|^2 g_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{6} R(\psi) g_{\alpha\beta}. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose that (ϕ, ψ) satisfies the Euler–Lagrange equations (1) and that the supercurrent J vanishes. Then

$$\begin{aligned} T_{\alpha\beta} = & 2\langle \phi_* e_\alpha, \phi_* e_\beta \rangle - |\mathrm{d}\phi|^2 g_{\alpha\beta} + \frac{1}{2} \langle \psi, e_\alpha \cdot \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta} \psi + e_\beta \cdot \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\alpha} \psi \rangle - \frac{1}{2} \langle \psi, \not{D}_g \psi \rangle g_{\alpha\beta} \\ & + \langle e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \chi^\eta \otimes \phi_* e_\beta + e_\eta \cdot e_\beta \cdot \chi^\eta \otimes \phi_* e_\alpha, \psi \rangle - \langle e_\theta \cdot e_\eta \cdot \chi^\theta \otimes \phi_* e_\eta, \psi \rangle g_{\alpha\beta}. \end{aligned}$$

Clearly T is symmetric and traceless. We will show it is also divergence free. Before this we rewrite it into a suitable form. Multiplying $\omega = e_1 \cdot e_2$ to both sides of equations (18), we get

$$e_2 \cdot \tilde{\nabla}_{e_1} \psi - e_1 \cdot \tilde{\nabla}_{e_2} \psi = \frac{1}{3} \omega \cdot SR(\psi) + |Q\chi|^2 \omega \cdot \psi + 2\omega \cdot (\mathbb{1} \otimes \phi_*) Q\chi.$$

Note that the right hand side is perpendicular to ψ :

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \psi, \omega \cdot SR(\psi) \rangle &= R_{ijkl} \langle \psi^j, \psi^l \rangle \langle \psi^i, \omega \cdot \psi^k \rangle = 0, \\ |Q\chi|^2 \langle \psi, \omega \cdot \psi \rangle &= 0, \\ \langle 2\omega \cdot (\mathbb{1} \otimes \phi_*) Q\chi, \psi \rangle &= -2\langle (\mathbb{1} \otimes \phi_*) Q\chi, \omega \cdot \psi \rangle = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Hence $\langle \psi, e_2 \cdot \tilde{\nabla}_{e_1} \psi \rangle - \langle \psi, e_1 \cdot \tilde{\nabla}_{e_2} \psi \rangle = 0$. Consequently,

$$\frac{1}{2} \langle \psi, e_\alpha \cdot \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta} \psi + e_\beta \cdot \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\alpha} \psi \rangle = \langle \psi, e_\alpha \cdot \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta} \psi \rangle.$$

Moreover, by (20),

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle e_\eta \cdot e_1 \cdot \chi^\eta \otimes \phi_* e_2, \psi \rangle - \langle e_\eta \cdot e_2 \cdot \chi^\eta \otimes \phi_* e_1, \psi \rangle \\ &= \langle -\chi^1 \otimes \phi_* e_2 - e_1 \cdot e_2 \cdot \chi^2 \otimes \phi_* e_2 - e_1 \cdot e_2 \cdot \chi^1 \otimes \phi_* e_1 + \chi^2 \otimes \phi_* e_1, \psi \rangle = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we can put the energy-momentum tensor into the following form:

$$(22) \quad \begin{aligned} T_{\alpha\beta} = & 2\langle \phi_* e_\alpha, \phi_* e_\beta \rangle - |\mathrm{d}\phi|^2 g_{\alpha\beta} + \langle \psi, e_\alpha \cdot \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta} \psi \rangle - \frac{1}{2} \langle \psi, \not{D}_g \psi \rangle g_{\alpha\beta} \\ & + 2\langle e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \chi^\eta \otimes \phi_* e_\beta, \psi \rangle - \langle e_\theta \cdot e_\eta \cdot \chi^\theta \otimes \phi_* e_\eta, \psi \rangle g_{\alpha\beta}. \end{aligned}$$

This form relates closely to the energy-momentum tensor for Dirac-harmonic maps in [8, Section 3] and that for Dirac-harmonic maps with curvature term in [24, Section 4], which also have the following nice properties. Such computations have been provided in [4, Section 3], but since certain algebraic aspects are different here, we need to spell out the computations in detail.

Proposition 3.3. *Let (ϕ, ψ, χ) be critical. Then the tensor T given by (21) or equivalently (22) is symmetric, traceless, and covariantly conserved.*

Proof. It remains to show that T is covariantly conserved. Let $x \in M$ and take the normal coordinate at x such that $\nabla e_\alpha(x) = 0$. We will show that $\nabla_{e_\alpha} T_{\alpha\beta}(x) = 0$. At the point x , making use of the Euler–Lagrange equations, one can calculate as follows.

•

$$\begin{aligned}
& \nabla_{e_\alpha}(2\langle\phi_*e_\alpha, \phi_*e_\beta\rangle - 2|\mathrm{d}\phi|^2g_{\alpha\beta}) \\
&= 2\langle\nabla_{e_\alpha}(\phi_*e_\alpha), \phi_*e_\beta\rangle + 2\langle\phi_*e_\alpha, \nabla_{e_\alpha}(\phi_*e_\beta)\rangle - 2\langle\phi_*e_\alpha, \nabla_{e_\beta}(\phi_*e_\alpha)\rangle \\
&= 2\langle\tau(\phi), \phi_*e_\beta\rangle \\
&= \langle R(\psi, e_\alpha \cdot \psi)\phi_*e_\alpha, \phi_*e_\beta\rangle - \frac{1}{6}\langle S\nabla R(\psi), \phi_*e_\beta\rangle \\
&\quad - 2\langle\nabla_{e_\alpha}^s(e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \chi_\eta) \otimes \phi_*e_\beta, \psi\rangle - 2\langle e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \chi_\eta \otimes \phi_*e_\beta, \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\alpha}\psi\rangle.
\end{aligned}$$

•

$$\begin{aligned}
& \nabla_{e_\alpha}(\langle\psi, e_\alpha \cdot \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta}\psi\rangle - \langle\psi, \not{D}\psi\rangle g_{\alpha\beta}) \\
&= \langle\tilde{\nabla}_{e_\alpha}\psi, e_\alpha \cdot \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta}\psi\rangle + \langle\psi, e_\alpha \cdot \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\alpha}\tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta}\psi\rangle - \langle\tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta}\psi, \not{D}\psi\rangle - \langle\psi, \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta}\not{D}\psi\rangle \\
&= -\langle\not{D}\psi, \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta}\psi\rangle + \langle\psi, \not{D}\tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta}\psi\rangle - \langle\tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta}\psi, \not{D}\psi\rangle - \langle\psi, \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta}\not{D}\psi\rangle \\
&= -2\langle\not{D}\psi, \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta}\psi\rangle + \langle\psi, \not{D}\tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta}\psi - \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta}\not{D}\psi\rangle.
\end{aligned}$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned}
\not{D}\tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta}\psi - \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta}\not{D}\psi &= e_\alpha \cdot \mathrm{Ric}^S(e_\alpha, e_\beta)\psi + R(\phi_*e_\alpha, \phi_*e_\beta) \\
&= \frac{1}{2}\mathrm{Ric}(e_\beta)\psi + R(\phi_*e_\alpha, \phi_*e_\beta)e_\alpha \cdot \psi,
\end{aligned}$$

and that $\langle\psi, \mathrm{Ric}(e_\beta)\psi\rangle = 0$. Hence one has

$$\begin{aligned}
& \nabla_{e_\alpha}(\langle\psi, e_\alpha \cdot \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta}\psi\rangle - \langle\psi, \not{D}\psi\rangle g_{\alpha\beta}) \\
&= -2\langle|Q\chi|^2\psi + \frac{1}{3}SR(\psi) + 2(\mathbf{1} \otimes \phi_*)Q\chi, \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta}\psi\rangle \\
&\quad + \langle\psi, R(\phi_*e_\alpha, \phi_*e_\beta)e_\alpha \cdot \psi\rangle \\
&= -2\langle|Q\chi|^2\psi, \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta}\psi\rangle - \frac{2}{3}\langle SR(\psi), \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta}\psi\rangle - 4\langle(\mathbf{1} \otimes \phi_*)Q\chi, \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta}\psi\rangle \\
&\quad - \langle R(\psi, e_\alpha \cdot \psi)\phi_*e_\alpha, \phi_*e_\beta\rangle.
\end{aligned}$$

•

$$\nabla_{e_\alpha}\left(\frac{1}{6}R(\psi)g_{\alpha\beta}\right) = \frac{1}{6}\langle S\nabla R(\psi), \phi_*e_\beta\rangle + \frac{2}{3}\langle SR(\psi), \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta}\psi\rangle.$$

•

$$\begin{aligned}
& \nabla_{e_\alpha}(2\langle e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \chi_\eta \otimes \phi_*e_\beta, \psi\rangle - \delta_{\alpha\beta}\langle e_\eta \cdot e_\eta \cdot \chi_\eta \otimes \phi_*e_\eta, \psi\rangle) \\
&= 2\langle\nabla_{e_\alpha}^s(e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \chi_\eta) \otimes \phi_*e_\beta, \psi\rangle + 2\langle e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \chi_\eta \otimes \nabla_{e_\alpha}(\phi_*e_\beta), \psi\rangle \\
&\quad + 2\langle e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \chi_\eta \otimes \phi_*e_\beta, \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\alpha}\psi\rangle - \nabla_{e_\beta}(\langle e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \chi_\eta \otimes \phi_*e_\alpha, \psi\rangle).
\end{aligned}$$

Summarize these terms and use the previous lemmata to get

$$\begin{aligned}
\nabla_{e_\alpha}T_{\alpha\beta} &= -2\langle|Q\chi|^2\psi, \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta}\psi\rangle - 4\langle(\mathbf{1} \otimes \phi_*)Q\chi, \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta}\psi\rangle \\
&\quad + 2\langle e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \chi_\eta \otimes \nabla_{e_\alpha}(\phi_*e_\beta), \psi\rangle - \nabla_{e_\beta}(\langle e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \chi_\eta \otimes \phi_*e_\alpha, \psi\rangle) \\
&= 2\langle\nabla_{e_\beta}^s(e_\alpha \cdot e_\eta \cdot \chi_\eta) \otimes \phi_*e_\eta, \psi\rangle - \nabla_{e_\beta}(\langle e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \chi_\eta \otimes \phi_*e_\alpha, \psi\rangle) \\
&\quad + 2\langle e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \chi_\eta \otimes \phi_*e_\alpha, \tilde{\nabla}_{e_\beta}\psi\rangle + 2\langle e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \chi_\eta \otimes \nabla_{e_\beta}(\phi_*e_\alpha), \psi\rangle \\
&\quad - \nabla_{e_\beta}(\langle e_\eta \cdot e_\alpha \cdot \chi_\eta \otimes \phi_*e_\alpha, \psi\rangle) \\
&= 0.
\end{aligned}$$

This accomplishes the proof. \square

As in the harmonic map case, such a 2-tensor then corresponds to a holomorphic quadratic differential on M . For the case of Dirac-harmonic maps (with or without curvature terms), see [8, 24] and [4]. More precisely, in a local isothermal coordinate $z = x + iy$, set

$$T(z) dz^2 := (T_{11} - iT_{12})(dx + i dy)^2,$$

with T_{11} and T_{12} now being the coefficients of the energy-momentum tensor T in the local coordinate, that is,

$$\begin{aligned} T_{11} &= \left| \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right|^2 - \left| \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \right|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \left(\langle \psi, \gamma(\partial_x) \tilde{\nabla}_{\partial_x} \psi \rangle - \langle \psi, \gamma(\partial_y) \tilde{\nabla}_{\partial_y} \psi \rangle \right) + F_{11}, \\ T_{12} &= \left\langle \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \right\rangle_{\phi^* h} + \langle \psi, \gamma(\partial_x) \tilde{\nabla}_{\partial_y} \psi \rangle + F_{12}. \end{aligned}$$

Here we have abbreviated the gravitino terms as $F_{\alpha\beta}$'s:

$$\begin{aligned} (23) \quad F_{11} &= 2 \langle -\chi^x \otimes \phi_*(\partial_x) - \gamma(\partial_x) \gamma(\partial_y) \chi^y \otimes \phi_*(\partial_x), \psi \rangle + 2 \langle (\mathbb{1} \otimes \phi_*) Q \chi, \psi \rangle g(\partial_x, \partial_x), \\ F_{12} &= 2 \langle -\chi^x \otimes \phi_*(\partial_y) - \gamma(\partial_x) \gamma(\partial_y) \chi^y \otimes \phi_*(\partial_y), \psi \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

where $\chi = \chi^x \otimes \partial_x + \chi^y \otimes \partial_y$ in a local chart.

Proposition 3.4. *The quadratic differential $T(z) dz^2$ is well-defined and holomorphic.*

Proof. The well-definedness is straightforward and the holomorphicity follows from Proposition 3.3. \square

4. POHOZAEV IDENTITY AND REMOVABLE SINGULARITIES

In this section we show that a solution of (1) with finite energy admits no isolated poles, provided that the gravitino is critical. As the singularities under consideration are isolated, we can locate the solution on the punctured Euclidean unit disk $B_1^* \equiv B_1 \setminus \{0\}$. Using the quadratic holomorphic differential derived in the previous section, we obtain the Pohozaev type formulae containing gravitino terms in Theorem 1.2. When the gravitino vanishes, they will reduce to the Pohozaev identities for Dirac-harmonic maps with curvature term, see e.g. [24, Lemma 5.3] and also [5, Lemma 3.11] where a somewhat different identity is derived.

Recall that the $F_{\alpha\beta}$'s are given in (23) and they can be controlled via Young inequality by

$$|F_{\alpha\beta}| \leq C |\nabla \phi| |\psi| |\chi| \leq C (|\nabla \phi|^2 + |\psi|^4 + |\chi|^4).$$

Proof of Theorem 1.2. By definition we have

$$|T(z)| \leq C \left(|\nabla \phi|^2 + |\tilde{\nabla} \psi| |\psi| + |F_{\alpha\beta}| \right).$$

Note that $|\nabla \psi| \leq C (|\nabla^s \psi| + |\psi| |\nabla \phi|)$. Apply the Young inequality once again to obtain

$$|T(z)| \leq C \left(|\nabla \phi|^2 + |\psi|^4 + |\nabla^s \psi|^{\frac{4}{3}} + |\chi|^4 \right).$$

From the initial assumptions we know that $\phi \in W^{1,2}(B_1^*, N)$, $\psi \in L^4(B_1^*)$ and χ is smooth in B_1 , thus by Theorem 6.1, (ϕ, ψ) is actually a weak solution on the whole disk B_1 . Using the ellipticity of the Dirac operator, ψ belongs to $W_{loc}^{1, \frac{4}{3}}(B_1)$. Therefore $|T(z)|$ is integrable on the disk B_r for any $r < 1$. Recall from Proposition 3.4 that $T(z)$ is a holomorphic function defined

on the punctured disk. Hence, it has a pole at the origin of order at most one. In particular, $zT(z)$ is holomorphic in the whole disk. Then by Cauchy theorem, for any $0 < r < 1$, it holds that $\int_{|z|=r} zT(z) dz = 0$. One can compute that in polar coordinate $z = re^{i\theta}$,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{r^2} \operatorname{Re}(z^2 T(z)) &= \left| \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \right|^2 - \frac{1}{r^2} \left| \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \theta} \right|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \left(\langle \psi, \gamma(\partial_r) \nabla_{\partial_r} \psi \rangle - \left\langle \psi, \frac{1}{r^2} \gamma(\partial_\theta) \nabla_{\partial_\theta} \psi \right\rangle \right) \\ &\quad + F_{11} \cos 2\theta + F_{12} \sin 2\theta. \end{aligned}$$

The identity $\langle \psi, \not{D}\psi \rangle = R(\psi)/3$ along a critical ψ implies

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \left(\langle \psi, \gamma(\partial_r) \nabla_{\partial_r} \psi \rangle - \left\langle \psi, \frac{1}{r^2} \gamma(\partial_\theta) \nabla_{\partial_\theta} \psi \right\rangle \right) &= \langle \psi, \gamma(\partial_r) \nabla_{\partial_r} \psi \rangle - \frac{1}{6} R(\psi) \\ &= - \left\langle \psi, \frac{1}{r^2} \gamma(\partial_\theta) \nabla_{\partial_\theta} \psi \right\rangle + \frac{1}{6} R(\psi). \end{aligned}$$

Finally, it suffices to note that

$$\operatorname{Im} \left(\int_{|z|=r} zT(z) dz \right) = r \int_0^{2\pi} \operatorname{Re}(z^2 T(z)) d\theta.$$

□

Integrating (5) with respect to the radius, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{B_1} \left| \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \right|^2 - \frac{1}{r^2} \left| \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \theta} \right|^2 dx &= \int_{B_1} -\langle \psi, \gamma(\partial_r) \nabla_{\partial_r} \psi \rangle + \frac{1}{6} R(\psi) - (F_{11} \cos 2\theta + F_{12} \sin 2\theta) dx \\ &= \int_{B_1} \left\langle \psi, \frac{1}{r^2} \gamma(\partial_\theta) \nabla_{\partial_\theta} \psi \right\rangle - \frac{1}{6} R(\psi) - (F_{11} \cos 2\theta + F_{12} \sin 2\theta) dx. \end{aligned}$$

Meanwhile note that in polar coordinate (r, θ) ,

$$|\nabla \phi|^2 = \left| \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \right|^2 + \frac{1}{r^2} \left| \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \theta} \right|^2.$$

This can be combined with Theorem 1.2 to give estimates on each component of the gradient of the map ϕ ; in particular,

$$(24) \quad \int_{B_1} \frac{1}{r^2} \left| \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \theta} \right|^2 dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_{B_1} |\nabla \phi|^2 + \langle \psi, \gamma(\partial_r) \nabla_{\partial_r} \psi \rangle - \frac{1}{6} R(\psi) + F_{11} \cos 2\theta + F_{12} \sin 2\theta dx.$$

Next we consider the isolated singularities of a solution. We show they are removable provided the gravitino is critical and does not have a singularity there, and the energy of the solution is finite. Different from Dirac-harmonic maps in [8, Theorem 4.6] and those with curvature term in [24, Theorem 6.1] (see also [5, Theorem 3.12]), we obtain this result using the regularity theorems of weak solutions. Thus we have to show first that weak solutions can be extended over an isolated point in a punctured neighborhood. This is achieved in the Appendix.

Theorem 4.1. (Removable singularity.) *Let (ϕ, ψ) be a smooth solution defined on the punctured disk $B_1^* \equiv B_1 \setminus \{0\}$. If χ is a smooth critical gravitino on B_1 and if (ϕ, ψ) has finite energy on B_1^* , then (ϕ, ψ) extends to a smooth solution on B_1 .*

Proof. From Theorem 6.1 in the Appendix we know that (ϕ, ψ) is also a weak solution on the whole disk B_1 . By taking a smaller disc centered at the origin and rescaling as above, one may assume that $E(\phi, \psi; B_1)$ and $\|\chi\|_{W^{1, \frac{4}{3}}(B_1)}$ are sufficiently small. From the result in [22] we then

see that (ϕ, ψ) is actually smooth in $B_{1/2}(0)$. In addition to the assumption, we see that it is a smooth solution on the whole disk. \square

5. ENERGY IDENTITY

In this section we consider the compactness of the critical points space, i.e. the space of solutions of (1). In the end we will prove the main result, the energy identities in Theorem 1.3. As in [35, Lemma 3.2] we establish the following estimate for ψ on annulus domains, which is useful for the proof of energy identities. Let $0 < 2r_2 < r_1 < 1$.

Lemma 5.1. *Let ψ be a solution of (3) defined on $A_{r_2, r_1} \equiv B_{r_1} \setminus B_{r_2}$. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\tilde{\nabla}\psi\|_{L^{\frac{4}{3}}(B_{r_1} \setminus B_{2r_2})} + \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_{r_1} \setminus B_{2r_2})} \\ & \leq C_0 \left(|A| \|\nabla\phi\|_{L^2(A_{r_2, r_1})} + \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(A_{r_2, r_1})}^2 + |A|^2 \|\psi\|_{L^4(A_{r_2, r_1})}^2 \right) \|\psi\|_{L^4(A_{r_2, r_1})} \\ & \quad + C \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(A_{r_2, r_1})} \|\nabla\phi\|_{L^2(A_{r_2, r_1})} + C \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_{2r_2} \setminus B_{r_2})} \\ & \quad + Cr_1^{\frac{3}{4}} \|\tilde{\nabla}\psi\|_{L^{\frac{4}{3}}(\partial B_{r_1})} + Cr_1^{\frac{1}{4}} \|\psi\|_{L^4(\partial B_{r_1})}, \end{aligned}$$

where $C_0 \geq 1$ is a universal constant which doesn't depend on r_1 and r_2 .

Proof. Under a rescaling by $1/r_1$, the domain A_{r_2, r_1} changes to $B_1 \setminus B_{r_0}$ where $r_0 = r_2/r_1$. By rescaling invariance it suffices to prove it on $B_1 \setminus B_{r_0}$. Choose a cutoff function η_{r_0} such that $\eta_{r_0} = 1$ in $B_1 \setminus B_{2r_0}$, $\eta_{r_0} = 0$ in B_{r_0} , and that $|\nabla\eta_{r_0}| \leq C/r_0$. Similarly as in the previous sections, the equations for $\eta_{r_0}\psi$ read

$$\begin{aligned} \delta(\eta_{r_0}\psi^i) = & \eta_{r_0} \left(-A_{jk}^i \nabla\phi^j \cdot \psi^k + |Q\chi|^2 \psi^i + \frac{1}{3} A_{jm}^i A_{kl}^m (\langle \psi^k, \psi^l \rangle \psi^j - \langle \psi^j, \psi^k \rangle \psi^l) \right) \\ & - \eta_{r_0} e_\alpha \cdot \nabla\phi^i \cdot \chi^\alpha + \nabla\eta_{r_0} \cdot \psi^i. \end{aligned}$$

Using [8, Lemma 4.7], we can estimate

$$\begin{aligned} \|\eta_{r_0}\psi\|_{W^{1, \frac{4}{3}}(B_1)} & \leq C'_0 |A| \|\eta_{r_0} |\nabla\phi| |\psi|\|_{L^{\frac{4}{3}}(B_1)} + C'_0 \|\eta_{r_0} |Q\chi|^2 |\psi|\|_{L^{\frac{4}{3}}(B_1)} + C'_0 |A|^2 \|\eta_{r_0} |\psi|^3\|_{L^{\frac{4}{3}}(B_1)} \\ & \quad + C'_0 \|\eta_{r_0} |\nabla\phi| |Q\chi|\|_{L^{\frac{4}{3}}(B_1)} + C'_0 \|\nabla\eta_{r_0} |\psi|\|_{L^{\frac{4}{3}}(B_1)} + C'_0 \|\eta_{r_0}\psi\|_{W^{1, \frac{4}{3}}(\partial B_1)}, \end{aligned}$$

where the constant C'_0 is also from [8, Lemma 4.7]. This implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\psi\|_{W^{1, \frac{4}{3}}(B_1 \setminus B_{2r_0})} & \leq 2C'_0 |A| \|\nabla\phi\|_{L^2(B_1 \setminus B_{r_0})} \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1 \setminus B_{r_0})} + C'_0 \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1 \setminus B_{r_0})}^2 \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1 \setminus B_{r_0})} \\ & \quad + C'_0 |A|^2 \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1 \setminus B_{r_0})}^3 + C'_0 \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1 \setminus B_{r_0})} \|\nabla\phi\|_{L^2(B_1 \setminus B_{r_0})} \\ & \quad + C'_0 \|\nabla\eta_{r_0}\|_{L^2(B_{2r_0} \setminus B_{r_0})} \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_{2r_0} \setminus B_{r_0})} + C'_0 \|\eta_{r_0}\psi\|_{W^{1, \frac{4}{3}}(\partial B_1)} \\ & \leq 2C'_0 \left(|A| \|\nabla\phi\|_{L^2(B_1 \setminus B_{r_0})} + \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1 \setminus B_{r_0})}^2 + |A|^2 \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1 \setminus B_{r_0})}^2 \right) \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1 \setminus B_{r_0})} \\ & \quad + C'_0 \|Q\chi\|_{L^4(B_1 \setminus B_{r_0})} \|\nabla\phi\|_{L^2(B_1 \setminus B_{r_0})} + C'_0 \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_{2r_0} \setminus B_{r_0})} + C'_0 \|\eta_{r_0}\psi\|_{W^{1, \frac{4}{3}}(\partial B_1)}. \end{aligned}$$

Using the Sobolev embedding theorem, we obtain the estimate on $B_1 \setminus B_{r_0}$, and scaling back, we get the desired result with $C_0 = 2C'_0$. \square

Thanks to the invariance under rescaled conformal transformations, the estimate in Lemma 5.1 can be applied to any conformally equivalent domain, in particular we will apply it on cylinders later.

Similarly we can estimate the energies of the map ϕ satisfying (1) on the annulus domains, in the same flavor as for Dirac-harmonic maps, see e.g. [35, Lemma 3.3].

Lemma 5.2. *Let (ϕ, ψ) be a solution of (1) defined on A_{r_2, r_1} with critical gravitino. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{B_{r_1} \setminus B_{r_2}} |\nabla \phi|^2 dx &\leq C \int_{B_{r_1} \setminus B_{r_2}} |A|^2 |\psi|^4 + |\tilde{\nabla} \psi|^{\frac{4}{3}} + |Q\chi|^2 |\psi|^2 dx \\ &\quad + C \int_{\partial(B_{r_1} \setminus B_{r_2})} (q - \phi) \left(\langle V, \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \rangle - \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \right) ds \\ &\quad + C_1 \sup_{B_{r_1} \setminus B_{r_2}} |q - \phi| \int_{B_{r_1} \setminus B_{r_2}} |A|^2 |\nabla \phi|^2 + |A|(|A| + |\nabla A|) |\psi|^4 + |\psi|^2 |Q\chi|^2 dx. \end{aligned}$$

Here $C_1 \geq 1$ is some universal constant.

Proof. Make a rescaling as in Lemma 5.1. Choose a function $q(r)$ on B_1 which is piecewise linear in $\log r$ with

$$q\left(\frac{1}{2^m}\right) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \phi\left(\frac{1}{2^m}, \theta\right) d\theta,$$

for $r_0 \leq 2^{-m} \leq 1$, and $q(r_0)$ is defined to be the average of ϕ on the circle of radius r_0 . Then q is harmonic in $A_m := \{\frac{1}{2^m} < r < \frac{1}{2^{m-1}}\} \subset B_1 \setminus B_{r_0}$ and in the annulus near the boundary $\{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid |x| = r_0\}$. Note that

$$\Delta(q - \phi) = -\Delta\phi = -A(\phi)(\nabla\phi, \nabla\phi) + \operatorname{div} V - f,$$

where V is given by (4) and f is an abbreviation for

$$f^i \equiv A_{jm}^i A_{kl}^m \langle \psi^j, \nabla \phi^k \cdot \psi^l \rangle + Z^i(A, \nabla A)_{jklm} \langle \psi^j, \psi^l \rangle \langle \psi^k, \psi^m \rangle - A_{jk}^i \langle V^j, \nabla \phi^k \rangle.$$

Using Green's formula we get

$$\int_{B_1 \setminus B_{r_0}} |dq - d\phi|^2 dx = - \int_{B_1 \setminus B_{r_0}} (q - \phi) \Delta(q - \phi) dx + \int_{\partial(B_1 \setminus B_{r_0})} (q - \phi) \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (q - \phi) ds.$$

Since $q(r_0)$ is the average of ϕ over ∂B_{r_0} we see that

$$\int_{\partial(B_1 \setminus B_{r_0})} (q - \phi) \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (q - \phi) ds = - \int_{\partial(B_1 \setminus B_{r_0})} (q - \phi) \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} ds.$$

By the equation of $(q - \phi)$,

$$\begin{aligned} - \int_{B_1 \setminus B_{r_0}} (q - \phi) \Delta(q - \phi) dx &= \int_{B_1 \setminus B_{r_0}} (q - \phi) (A(\phi)(\nabla\phi, \nabla\phi) + f) - (q - \phi) \operatorname{div} V dx \\ &= \int_{B_1 \setminus B_{r_0}} (q - \phi) (A(\phi)(\nabla\phi, \nabla\phi) + f) + \langle \nabla(q - \phi), V \rangle dx \\ &\quad + \int_{\partial(B_1 \setminus B_{r_0})} (q - \phi) \langle V, \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \rangle ds. \end{aligned}$$

These together imply that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{B_1 \setminus B_{r_0}} |dq - d\phi|^2 dx &\leq \int_{B_1 \setminus B_{r_0}} 2(q - \phi) (A(\phi)(\nabla\phi, \nabla\phi) + f) + |V|^2 dx \\ &\quad + \int_{\partial(B_1 \setminus B_{r_0})} 2(q - \phi) \left(\langle V, \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \rangle - \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial r} \right) ds. \end{aligned}$$

Recall the Pohozaev formulae (5) or its consequence (24), and note that they hold also on the annulus domains. Note also that

$$\int_{B_1 \setminus B_{r_0}} |dq - d\phi|^2 dx \geq \int_{B_1 \setminus B_{r_0}} \frac{1}{r^2} \left| \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial\theta} \right|^2 dx.$$

Therefore we get

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{1}{2} \int_{B_1 \setminus B_{r_0}} |\nabla\phi|^2 + \langle \psi, \gamma(\partial_r) \tilde{\nabla}_{\partial_r} \psi \rangle - \frac{1}{6} R(\psi) + F_{11} \cos 2\theta + F_{12} \sin 2\theta dx \\ &\leq \int_{B_1 \setminus B_{r_0}} 2(q - \phi) (A(\phi)(\nabla\phi, \nabla\phi) + f) + |V|^2 dx + \int_{\partial(B_1 \setminus B_{r_0})} 2(q - \phi) \left(\langle V, \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \rangle - \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial r} \right) ds. \end{aligned}$$

From this it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{B_1 \setminus B_{r_0}} |\nabla\phi|^2 dx &\leq \int_{B_1 \setminus B_{r_0}} |A|^2 |\psi|^4 + |\tilde{\nabla}\psi|^{\frac{4}{3}} + 32|Q\chi|^2 |\psi|^2 dx \\ &\quad + \int_{\partial(B_1 \setminus B_{r_0})} 8(q - \phi) \left(\langle V, \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \rangle - \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial r} \right) ds \\ &\quad + 16 \sup_{B_1 \setminus B_{r_0}} |q - \phi| \int_{B_1 \setminus B_{r_0}} |A|^2 |\nabla\phi|^2 + |A|(|A| + |\nabla A|) |\psi|^4 + |\psi|^2 |Q\chi|^2 dx. \end{aligned}$$

Then we rescale back to A_{r_2, r_1} . The universal constant C_1 can be taken to be 16, for instance. \square

Finally we can show the energy identities, Theorem 1.3. The corresponding ones for Dirac-harmonic maps with curvature term were obtained in [24], following the scheme of [15, 7] and using a method which is based on a type of three circle lemma. Here we apply a method in the same spirit as those in [34, 35]. Since we have no control of higher derivatives of gravitinos, the strong convergence assumption on gravitinos is needed here. We remark that the Pohozaev type identity established in Theorem 1.2 is crucial in the proof of this theorem.

Proof of Theorem 1.3. The uniform boundedness of energies implies that there is a subsequence converging weakly in $W^{1,2} \times L^4$ to a limit (ϕ, ψ) which is a weak solution with respect to χ . Also the boundedness of energies implies that the blow-up set \mathcal{S} consists of only at most finitely many points (possibly empty). If $\mathcal{S} = \emptyset$, then the sequence converges strongly and the conclusion follows directly. Now we assume it is not empty, say $\mathcal{S} = \{p_1, \dots, p_I\}$. Moreover, using the small energy regularities and compact Sobolev embeddings, by a covering argument similar to that in [30] we see that there is a subsequence converging strongly in the $W^{1,2} \times L^4$ -topology on the subset $(M \setminus \cup_{i=1}^I B_\delta(p_i))$ for any $\delta > 0$.

When the limit gravitino χ is smooth, by the regularity theorems in [22] together with the removable singularity theorem 4.1 we see that (ϕ, ψ) is indeed a smooth solution with respect to χ .

Since M is compact and blow-up points are only finitely many, we can find small disks B_{δ_i} being small neighborhood of each blow-up point p_i such that $B_{\delta_i} \cap B_{\delta_j} = \emptyset$ whenever $i \neq j$ and on $M \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^I B_{\delta_i}$, the sequence (ϕ_k, ψ_k) converges strongly to (ϕ, ψ) in $W^{1,2} \times L^4$.

Thus, to show the energy identities, it suffices to prove that there exist solutions (σ_i^l, ξ_i^l) of (1) with vanishing gravitinos (i.e. Dirac-harmonic maps with curvature term) defined on the standard 2-sphere \mathbb{S}^2 , $1 \leq l \leq L_i$, such that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^I \lim_{\delta_i \rightarrow 0} \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} E(\phi_k; B_{\delta_i}) &= \sum_{i=1}^I \sum_{l=1}^{L_i} E(\sigma_i^l), \\ \sum_{i=1}^I \lim_{\delta_i \rightarrow 0} \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} E(\psi_k; B_{\delta_i}) &= \sum_{i=1}^I \sum_{l=1}^{L_i} E(\xi_i^l). \end{aligned}$$

This will hold if we prove for each $i = 1, \dots, I$,

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{\delta_i \rightarrow 0} \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} E(\phi_k; B_{\delta_i}) &= \sum_{l=1}^{L_i} E(\sigma_i^l), \\ \lim_{\delta_i \rightarrow 0} \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} E(\psi_k; B_{\delta_i}) &= \sum_{l=1}^{L_i} E(\xi_i^l). \end{aligned}$$

First we consider the case that there is only one bubble at the blow-up point $p = p_1$. Then what we need to prove is that there exists a solution (σ^1, ξ^1) with vanishing gravitino such that

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} E(\phi_k; B_\delta) &= E(\sigma^1), \\ \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} E(\psi_k; B_\delta) &= E(\xi^1). \end{aligned}$$

For each (ϕ_k, ψ_k) , we choose λ_k such that

$$\max_{x \in D_\delta(p)} E(\phi_k, \psi_k; B_{\lambda_k}(x)) = \frac{\varepsilon_1}{2},$$

and then choose $x_k \in B_\delta(p)$ such that

$$E(\phi_k, \psi_k; B_{\lambda_k}(x_k)) = \frac{\varepsilon_1}{2}.$$

Passing to a subsequence if necessary, we may assume that $\lambda_k \rightarrow 0$ and $x_k \rightarrow p$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$. Denote

$$\tilde{\phi}_k(x) = \phi_k(x_k + \lambda_k x), \quad \tilde{\psi}_k(x) = \lambda_k^{\frac{1}{2}} \psi_k(x_k + \lambda_k x), \quad \tilde{\chi}_k = \lambda_k^{\frac{1}{2}} \chi_k(x_k + \lambda_k x).$$

Then $(\tilde{\phi}_k, \tilde{\psi}_k)$ is a solution with respect to $\tilde{\chi}_k$ on the unit disk $B_1(0)$, and by the rescaled conformal invariance of the energies,

$$\begin{aligned} E(\tilde{\phi}_k, \tilde{\psi}_k; B_1(0)) &= E(\phi_k, \psi_k; B_{\lambda_k}(x_k)) = \frac{\varepsilon_1}{2} < \varepsilon_1, \\ E(\tilde{\phi}_k, \tilde{\psi}_k; B_R(0)) &= E(\phi_k, \psi_k; B_{\lambda_k R}(x_k)) \leq \Lambda. \end{aligned}$$

Recall that the χ_k 's are assumed to converge in $W^{1,4/3}$ norm. Due to the rescaled conformal invariance in Lemma 1.1, we have, for any fixed $R > 0$,

$$\int_{B_R(0)} |\tilde{\chi}_k|^4 + |\widehat{\nabla} \tilde{\chi}_k|^{\frac{4}{3}} dx = \int_{B_{\lambda_k R}(x_k)} |\chi_k|^4 + |\widehat{\nabla} \chi_k|^{\frac{4}{3}} d\text{vol}_g \rightarrow 0$$

as $k \rightarrow \infty$. It follows that $\tilde{\chi}_k$ converges to 0.

Since we assumed that there is only one bubble, the sequence $(\tilde{\phi}_k, \tilde{\psi}_k)$ strongly converge to some $(\tilde{\phi}, \tilde{\psi})$ in $W^{1,2}(B_R, N) \times L^4(B_R, S \times \mathbb{R}^K)$ for any $R \geq 1$. Indeed, this is clearly true for $R \leq 1$ because of the small energy regularities, and if for some $R_0 \geq 1$, the convergence on B_{R_0} is not strong, then the energies would concentrate at some point outside the unit disk, and by rescaling a second nontrivial bubble would be obtained, contradicting the assumption that there is only one bubble. Thus, since R can be arbitrarily large, we get a nonconstant (because energy $\geq \frac{\varepsilon_1}{2}$) solution on \mathbb{R}^2 . By stereographic projection we obtain a nonconstant solution on $\mathbb{S}^2 \setminus \{N\}$ with energy bounded by Λ and with zero gravitino. Thanks to the removable singularity theorem for Dirac-harmonic maps with curvature term (apply Theorem 4.1 with $\chi \equiv 0$ or see [24, Theorem 6.1]), we actually have a nontrivial solution on \mathbb{S}^2 . This is the first bubble at the blow-up point p .

Now consider the neck domain

$$A(\delta, R; k) := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 | \lambda_k R \leq |x - x_k| \leq \delta\}.$$

It suffices to show that

$$(25) \quad \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} E(\phi_k, \psi_k; A(\delta, R; k)) = 0.$$

Note that the strong convergence assumption on χ_k 's implies that

$$(26) \quad \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \int_{A(\delta, R; k)} |\chi_k|^4 + |\widehat{\nabla} \chi_k|^{\frac{4}{3}} dx \leq \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \int_{B_{2\delta}(p)} |\chi|^4 + |\widehat{\nabla} \chi|^{\frac{4}{3}} dx = 0,$$

by, say, Lebesgue's dominated convergence theorem.

To show (25), it may be more intuitive to transform them to a cylinder. Let (r_k, θ_k) be the polar coordinate around x_k . Consider the maps

$$f_k : (\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{S}^1, (t, \theta), g = dt^2 + d\theta^2) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^2, (r_k, \theta_k), ds^2 = dr_k^2 + r_k^2 d\theta_k^2)$$

given by $f_k(t, \theta) = (e^{-t}, \theta)$. Then $f_k^{-1}(A(\delta, R; k)) = (-\log \delta, -\log \lambda_k R) \times \mathbb{S}^1 \equiv P_k(\delta, R) \equiv P_k$. After a translation in the \mathbb{R} direction, the domains P_k converge to the cylinder $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{S}^1$. It is known that f_k is conformal

$$f_k^*(dr_k^2 + r_k^2 d\theta_k^2) = e^{-2t}(dt^2 + d\theta^2).$$

Thus a solution defined in a neighborhood of x_k is transformed to a solution defined on part of the cylinder via

$$\Phi_k(x) := \phi_k \circ f_k(x), \quad \Psi_k(x) := e^{-\frac{t}{2}} B \psi_k \circ f_k(x), \quad X_k(x) := e^{-\frac{t}{2}} B \chi_k \circ f_k(x),$$

where B is the isomorphism given in Lemma 1.1. Note that

$$E(\Phi_k, \Psi_k; P_k) = E(\phi_k, \psi_k; A(\delta, R; k)) \leq \Lambda,$$

and that by the remark after Lemma 1.1, for any $R \in (0, \infty)$,

$$(27) \quad \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \int_{P_k(\delta, R)} |X_k|^4 + |\widehat{\nabla} X_k|^{\frac{4}{3}} dx = \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \int_{A(\delta, R; k)} |\chi_k|^4 + |\widehat{\nabla} \chi_k|^{\frac{4}{3}} dx = 0,$$

which follows from (26).

For any fixed $T > 0$, observe that (ϕ_k, ψ_k, χ_k) converges strongly to (ϕ, ψ, χ) on the annulus domain $B_\delta(p) \setminus B_{\delta e^{-T}}(p)$, which implies that (Φ_k, Ψ_k, X_k) converges strongly to (Φ, Ψ, X) on $P_T \equiv [T_0, T_0 + T] \times \mathbb{S}^1$, where $T_0 = -\log \delta$ and

$$\Phi(x) := \phi \circ f(x), \quad \Psi(x) := e^{-\frac{t}{2}} B \psi \circ f(x), \quad X(x) := e^{-\frac{t}{2}} B \chi \circ f(x),$$

where $f(t, \theta) = (e^{-t}, \theta)$.

Let $0 < \varepsilon < \varepsilon_1$ be given. Because of $E(\phi, \psi) \leq \Lambda$ and (27), there exists a $\delta > 0$ small such that $E(\phi, \psi; B_\delta(p)) < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ and such that

$$(28) \quad \int_{B_\delta(x_k)} |\chi_k|^4 + |\widehat{\nabla} \chi_k|^{\frac{4}{3}} dx < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$$

for large k . Thus for the T given above, there is a $k(T) > 0$ such that for $k > k(T)$,

$$(29) \quad E(\Phi_k, \Psi_k; P_T) < \varepsilon.$$

In a similar way, we denote $T_k \equiv |\log \lambda_k R|$ and $Q_{T,k} \equiv [T_k - T, T_k] \times \mathbb{S}^1$. Then for k large enough,

$$(30) \quad E(\Phi_k, \Psi_k; Q_{T,k}) < \varepsilon.$$

For the part in between $[T_0 + T, T_k - T]$, we claim that there is a $k(T)$ such that for $k \geq k(T)$,

$$(31) \quad \int_{[t, t+1] \times \mathbb{S}^1} |\nabla \Phi_k|^2 + |\Psi_k|^4 dx < \varepsilon, \quad \forall t \in [T_0, T_k - 1].$$

To prove this claim we will follow the arguments as in the case of harmonic maps in [15] and Dirac-harmonic maps in [8]. Suppose this is false, then there exists a sequence $\{t_k\}$ such that $t_k \rightarrow \infty$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$ and

$$\int_{[t_k, t_k+1] \times \mathbb{S}^1} |\nabla \Phi_k|^2 + |\Psi_k|^4 dx \geq \varepsilon.$$

Because of the energies near the ends are small by (29) and (30), we know that $t_k - T_0, T_k - t_k \rightarrow \infty$. Thus by a translation from t to $t - t_k$, we get solutions $(\tilde{\Phi}_k, \tilde{\Psi}_k; \tilde{X}_k)$, and for all k it holds that

$$\int_{[0, 1] \times \mathbb{S}^1} |\nabla \tilde{\Phi}_k|^2 + |\tilde{\Psi}_k|^4 dx \geq \varepsilon.$$

From (27) we see that \tilde{X}_k go to 0 in $W_{loc}^{1, \frac{4}{3}}$. Due to the bounded energy assumption we may assume that $(\tilde{\Phi}_k, \tilde{\Psi}_k)$ converges weakly to some $(\tilde{\Phi}_\infty, \tilde{\Psi}_\infty)$ in $W_{loc}^{1, 2} \times L_{loc}^4(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{S}^1)$, passing to a subsequence if necessary. Moreover, by a similar argument as before, the convergence is strong except near at most finitely many points. If this convergence is strong on $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{S}^1$, we obtain a nonconstant solution with respect to zero gravitino on the whole of $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{S}^1$, hence, by a conformal transformation, a Dirac-harmonic map with curvature term on $\mathbb{S}^2 \setminus \{N, S\}$ with finite energy. The removable singularity theorem then ensures a nontrivial solution on \mathbb{S}^2 , contradicting the assumption that $L = 1$. On the other hand if the sequence $(\tilde{\Phi}_k, \tilde{\Psi}_k; \tilde{X}_k)$ does not converge strongly to $(\tilde{\Phi}_\infty, \tilde{\Psi}_\infty; 0)$, then we may find some point (t_0, θ_0) at which the sequence blows up, giving rise to another nontrivial solution with zero gravitino on \mathbb{S}^2 , again contradicting $L = 1$. Therefore (31) has to hold.

Applying a finite decomposition argument similar to [34, 35], we can divide P_k into finitely many parts

$$P_k = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\mathcal{N}} P_k^n, \quad P_k^n := [T_k^{n-1}, T_k^n] \times \mathbb{S}^1, \quad T_k^0 = T_0, \quad T_k^{\mathcal{N}} = T_k,$$

where \mathcal{N} is a uniform integer, and on each part the energy of (Φ_k, Ψ_k) is bounded by $\delta = (\frac{1}{8C_0 C_1 C(A)})^2$ where we put $C(A) := |A|(|A| + |\nabla A|)$. Actually, since $E(\Phi_k, \Psi_k; P_k) \leq \Lambda$, we know that it can be always divided into at most $\mathcal{N} = [\Lambda/\delta] + 1$ parts such that on each part the energy is not more than δ .

We will use the notation

$$P_k^n = [T_k^{n-1}, T_k^n] \times \mathbb{S}^1, \quad \bar{P}_k^n = [T_k^{n-1} - 1, T_k^n] \times \mathbb{S}^1,$$

and $\Delta P_k^n = \bar{P}_k^n - P_k^n$. With Lemma 5.1 on the annuli, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\Psi_k\|_{L^4(P_k^n)} + \|\tilde{\nabla}\Psi_k\|_{L^{\frac{4}{3}}(P_k^n)} \\ & \leq C_0 \left(|A| \|\nabla\Phi_k\|_{L^2(\bar{P}_k^n)} + \|QX_k\|_{L^4(\bar{P}_k^n)}^2 + |A|^2 \|\Psi_k\|_{L^4(\bar{P}_k^n)}^2 \right) \|\Psi_k\|_{L^4(\bar{P}_k^n)} \\ & \quad + C \|QX_k\|_{L^4(\bar{P}_k^n)} \|\nabla\Phi_k\|_{L^2(\bar{P}_k^n)} + C \|\Psi_k\|_{L^4(\Delta P_k^n)} \\ & \quad + C \|\tilde{\nabla}\Psi_k\|_{L^{\frac{4}{3}}(T_k^n \times \mathbb{S}^1)} + C \|\Psi_k\|_{L^4(T_k^n \times \mathbb{S}^1)} \\ & \leq \frac{1}{4} \|\Psi_k\|_{L^4(P_k^n)} + \frac{1}{4} \|\Psi_k\|_{L^4(\Delta P_k^n)} + C \|QX_k\|_{L^4(\bar{P}_k^n)} \|\nabla\Phi_k\|_{L^2(P_k^n)} \\ & \quad + C \|QX_k\|_{L^4(\bar{P}_k^n)} \|\nabla\Phi_k\|_{L^2(\Delta P_k^n)} + C \|\Psi_k\|_{L^4(\Delta P_k^n)} \\ & \quad + C \|\tilde{\nabla}\Psi_k\|_{L^{\frac{4}{3}}(T_k^n \times \mathbb{S}^1)} + C \|\Psi_k\|_{L^4(T_k^n \times \mathbb{S}^1)}, \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the fact that $\|QX_k\|_{L^4(P_k)}$ can be very small when we take k large and δ small, because of (27). Note that on ΔP_k^n the energies of (Φ_k, Ψ_k) are bounded by ε . Moreover, since on $[T_k^n - 1/2, T_k^n + 1/2] \times \mathbb{S}^1$ the small energy assumption holds, thus the boundary terms above are also controlled by $C\varepsilon$ due to the small regularity theorems. Therefore, combining with (28), we get

$$(32) \quad \|\Psi_k\|_{L^4(P_k^n)} + \|\tilde{\nabla}\Psi_k\|_{L^{\frac{4}{3}}(P_k^n)} \leq C(\Lambda)\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{4}}.$$

It remains to control the energy of Φ_k on P_k^n . We divide P_k^n into smaller parts such that on each of them the energy of Φ_k is smaller than ε . Then the small regularity theorems imply that $|\phi_k - q_k| \leq C_*\sqrt{\varepsilon}$ (which may be assumed to be less than 1), see (13). Then applying Lemma 5.2 (transformed onto the annuli) on each small part and summing up the inequalities, one sees that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{P_k^n} |\nabla\Phi_k|^2 dx & \leq C_1 C(A) C_* \sqrt{\varepsilon} \int_{P_k^n} |\nabla\Phi_k|^2 + |\Psi_k|^4 + |QX_k|^2 |\Psi_k|^2 dx \\ & \quad + C C_* \sqrt{\varepsilon} \int_{\partial P_k^n} |QX_k| |\Psi_k| + |\nabla\Phi_k| ds \\ & \quad + C \int_{P_k^n} |\Psi_k|^4 + |\tilde{\nabla}\Psi_k|^{\frac{4}{3}} + |QX_k|^2 |\Psi_k|^2 dx. \end{aligned}$$

Using an argument similar to the above one, and combining with (32), we see that

$$\int_{P_k^n} |\nabla\Phi_k|^2 dx \leq C(\Lambda)\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{3}},$$

with $C(\Lambda)$ being a uniform constant independent of k, n, \mathcal{N} and the choice of ε . Therefore, on the neck domains,

$$\int_{P_k} |\nabla\Phi_k|^2 + |\Psi_k|^4 dx = \sum_{n=1}^{\mathcal{N}} \int_{P_k^n} |\nabla\Phi_k|^2 + |\Psi_k|^4 dx \leq C\mathcal{N}\varepsilon^{\frac{1}{3}}.$$

As \mathcal{N} is uniform (independent of ε and k) and ε can be arbitrarily small, thus (25) follows, and this accomplishes the proof for the case where there is only one bubble.

When there are more bubbles, we apply an induction argument on the number of bubbles in a standard way, see [15] for the details. The proof is thus finished. \square

We remark that the conclusion clearly holds when the gravitino χ is fixed. Then as Theorem 1.3 shows, a sequence of solutions with bounded energies will contain a weakly convergent subsequence and at certain points this subsequence blows up to give some bubbles. In the language of Teichmüller theory [32], the solution space can be compactified by adding some boundaries, which consists of the Dirac-harmonic maps with curvature term on two-dimensional spheres. This is in particular true when the sequence of gravitinos is assumed to be uniformly small in the C^1 norm, which is of interest when one wants to consider perturbations of the zero gravitinos.

6. APPENDIX

In this appendix we show that a weak solution to a system with coupled first and second order elliptic equations on the punctured unit disk can be extended as a weak solution on the whole unit disk, when the system satisfies some natural conditions. This is observed for elliptic systems of second order in the two-dimensional calculus of variations, see [20, Appendix], and we generalize it in the following form.

As before, we denote the unit disk in \mathbb{R}^2 by B_1 and the punctured unit disk by $B_1^* = B_1 \setminus \{0\}$. Let S denote the trivial spinor bundle over B_1 .

Theorem 6.1. *Suppose that $\phi \in W^{1,2}(B_1^*, \mathbb{R}^K)$, $\psi \in L^4(B_1^*, S \otimes \mathbb{R}^K)$, $\chi \in L^4(B_1, S \otimes \mathbb{R}^2)$, and they satisfy the system on B_1^**

$$(33) \quad \begin{aligned} \Delta \phi &= F(x, \phi, \nabla \phi, \psi, \chi) + \operatorname{div}_x(V), \\ \not\partial \psi &= G(x, \phi, \nabla \phi, \psi, \chi), \end{aligned}$$

in the sense of distributions; i.e. for any $u \in W_0^{1,2} \cap L^\infty(B_1^, \mathbb{R}^K)$ and any $v \in W_0^{1,\frac{4}{3}}(B_1^*, S \otimes \mathbb{R}^K)$, it holds that*

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{B_1^*} \langle \nabla \phi, \nabla u \rangle dx &= - \int_{B_1^*} \langle F(x, \phi, \nabla \phi, \psi, \chi), u \rangle dx + \int_{B_1^*} \langle V(x, \phi, \nabla \phi, \psi, \chi), \nabla u \rangle dx, \\ \int_{B_1^*} \langle \psi, \not\partial v \rangle dx &= \int_{B_1^*} \langle G(x, \phi, \nabla \phi, \psi, \chi), v \rangle dx. \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, assume that the following growth condition is satisfied:

$$(34) \quad |F(x, t, p, q, s)| + |V(x, t, p, q, s)|^2 + |G(x, t, p, q, s)|^{\frac{4}{3}} \leq C (1 + |p|^2 + |q|^4 + |s|^4).$$

Then for any $\eta \in W_0^{1,2} \cap L^\infty(B_1, \mathbb{R}^K)$ and any $\xi \in W_0^{1,\frac{4}{3}}(B_1, S \otimes \mathbb{R}^K)$, it also holds that

$$(35) \quad \begin{aligned} \int_{B_1} \langle \nabla \phi, \nabla \eta \rangle dx &= - \int_{B_1} \langle F(x, \phi, \nabla \phi, \psi, \chi), \eta \rangle dx + \int_{B_1} \langle V(x, \phi, \nabla \phi, \psi, \chi), \nabla \eta \rangle dx, \\ \int_{B_1} \langle \psi, \not\partial \xi \rangle dx &= \int_{B_1} \langle G(x, \phi, \nabla \phi, \psi, \chi), \xi \rangle dx. \end{aligned}$$

That is, when the growth condition (34) is satisfied, any weak solution to (33) on the punctured disk B_1^ is also a weak solution on the whole disk.*

Proof. For $m \geq 2$, define

$$\rho_m(r) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{for } r \leq \frac{1}{m^2}, \\ \log(1/mr)/\log m, & \text{for } (1/m)^2 \leq r \leq 1/m, \\ 0, & \text{for } r \geq 1/m. \end{cases}$$

Then for any $\eta \in W_0^{1,2} \cap L^\infty(B_1, \mathbb{R}^K)$ and any $\xi \in W_0^{1,\frac{4}{3}}(B_1, S \otimes \mathbb{R}^K)$, set

$$\begin{aligned} u_m(x) &= (1 - \rho_m(|x|)) \eta(x) \in W_0^{1,2} \cap L^\infty(B_1^*, \mathbb{R}^K), \\ v_m(x) &= (1 - \rho_m(|x|)) \xi(x) \in W_0^{1,\frac{4}{3}}(B_1^*, S \otimes \mathbb{R}^K). \end{aligned}$$

In fact, $|1 - \rho_m| \leq 1$ and

$$|\nabla \rho_m(|x|)| = \frac{1}{\log m} \frac{1}{r};$$

hence

$$\int_{B_1} |\nabla \rho_m(|x|)|^2 dx = \frac{2\pi}{(\log m)^2} \int_{m^{-2}}^{m^{-1}} \frac{1}{r^2} r dr = \frac{2\pi}{\log m}$$

which goes to 0 as $m \rightarrow \infty$. It follows that $u_m \in W_0^{1,2}$. Recalling the Sobolev embedding in dimension two, $W_0^{1,\frac{4}{3}}(B_1^*) \hookrightarrow L^4(B_1^*)$, v_m lies in $W_0^{1,\frac{4}{3}}(B_1^*)$.

By assumption,

$$\int_{B_1^*} \langle \nabla \phi, \nabla u_m \rangle dx = - \int_{B_1^*} \langle F(x, \phi, \nabla \phi, \psi, \chi), u_m \rangle dx + \int_{B_1^*} \langle V(x, \phi, \nabla \phi, \psi, \chi), \nabla u_m \rangle dx.$$

Note that $F(x, \phi, \nabla \phi, \psi, \chi) \in L^1(B_1^*)$ by the growth condition (34) and $|u_m| \leq |\eta| \in L^\infty$. Since u_m converges to η pointwisely almost everywhere, thus by Lebesgue's dominated convergence theorem

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \int_{B_1^*} \langle F(x, \phi, \nabla \phi, \psi, \chi), u_m \rangle dx = \int_{B_1^*} \langle F(x, \phi, \nabla \phi, \psi, \chi), \eta \rangle dx.$$

For the other two terms, note that $\nabla u_m = -\nabla \rho_m(|x|)\eta(x) + (1 - \rho_m(|x|))\nabla \eta(x)$. Then

$$\left| \int_{B_1^*} \langle \nabla \phi, -\nabla \rho_m(|x|)\eta(x) \rangle \right| \leq \|\nabla \phi\|_{L^2(B_1^*)} \|\eta\|_{L^\infty(B_1)} \|\nabla \rho_m\|_{L^2(B_1^*)} \rightarrow 0,$$

as $m \rightarrow \infty$, while

$$\int_{B_1^*} \langle \nabla \phi, (1 - \rho_m(|x|))\nabla \eta \rangle dx \rightarrow \int_{B_1} \langle \nabla \phi, \nabla \eta \rangle dx$$

again by Lebesgue's dominated convergence theorem. Thus

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \int_{B_1^*} \langle \nabla \phi, \nabla u_m \rangle dx = \int_{B_1} \langle \nabla \phi, \nabla \eta \rangle dx.$$

Similarly

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \int_{B_1^*} \langle V(x, \phi, \nabla \phi, \psi, \chi), \nabla u_m \rangle dx = \int_{B_1} \langle V(x, \phi, \nabla \phi, \psi, \chi), \nabla \eta \rangle dx.$$

Therefore, the first equation of (35) holds.

Next we show that the second equation of (35) also holds. Indeed, by assumption

$$\int_{B_1^*} \langle \psi, \not\partial v_m \rangle dx = \int_{B_1^*} \langle G(x, \phi, \nabla \phi, \psi, \chi), v_m \rangle dx.$$

Now by the growth condition (34), $G(x, \phi, \nabla \phi, \psi, \chi) \in L^{\frac{4}{3}}(B_1)$, and by Sobolev embedding $\xi \in L^4(B_1)$, thus Lebesgue's dominated convergence theorem implies

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \int_{B_1^*} \langle G(x, \phi, \nabla \phi, \psi, \chi), v_m \rangle dx = \int_{B_1} \langle G(x, \phi, \nabla \phi, \psi, \chi), \xi \rangle dx.$$

On the other hand, $\not\partial v_m = -\gamma(\nabla \rho_m(|x|))\xi + (1 - \rho_m(|x|))\not\partial \xi$, and

$$\left| \int_{B_1^*} \langle \psi, -\gamma(\nabla \rho_m(|x|))\xi \rangle dx \right| \leq \|\psi\|_{L^4(B_1)} \|\xi\|_{L^4(B_1)} \|\nabla \rho_m\|_{L^2(B_1)} \rightarrow 0,$$

as $m \rightarrow \infty$, while Lebesgue's dominated convergence theorem implies

$$\int_{B_1^*} \langle \psi, (1 - \rho_m)\not\partial \xi \rangle dx \rightarrow \int_{B_1} \langle \psi, \not\partial \xi \rangle dx$$

since $\not\partial \xi \in L^{\frac{4}{3}}(B_1)$ and $\psi \in L^4(B_1^*)$. This accomplishes the proof. \square

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